
CAPITOL CONNECTION

A Weekly Update of News and Views
For Opinion Shapers and Policy Makers

Congressman Gary G. Miller
42nd District, California



February 2, 2007

Congressman Miller Coauthors Tax Relief Measure

Congressman Miller joined his colleagues this week in introducing legislation to make several popular tax cuts permanent. Specifically, H.R. 411 would permanently extend the child tax credit, marriage penalty relief, the college tuition deduction, the school teacher expense deduction, and repeal the estate tax. Without legislative action, many of these important provisions are set to expire at the end of 2007. Currently, the United States economy is undergoing a period of remarkable growth. Congressman Miller believes that by keeping taxes low, expanding markets for American businesses, and holding the line on government spending, we can continue to keep our already strong economy growing. With the President's budget scheduled to be sent to Congress next week, the House of Representatives will begin a critical debate about our country's budget future, and its impact on our children and grandchildren. Congressman Miller is committed to balancing the budget without raising the family tax burden, but instead doing so by reducing government spending.

Legislation Introduced to Crack Down on Hiring of Illegal Immigrants

This week, Congressman Miller joined more than half a dozen of his colleagues from Southern California in cosponsoring H.R. 98, the Illegal Immigration Enforcement and Social Security Protection Act. The aim of this bill is to equip Social Security cards with improved features to defend against fraudulent use, provide a method by which employers can immediately verify employment eligibility, and increase fines for hiring illegal aliens. Under the terms of this bill, the Department of Homeland Security would maintain an employment eligibility database containing citizenship data and work eligibility information for non-citizens. Employers would then be required to verify an individual's employment eligibility through this database. To ensure compliance, this bill would impose harsh penalties on employers who knowingly hire an illegal alien or who fail to verify their employee's eligibility by imposing fines of up to \$50,000 and by requiring the employers to reimburse taxpayers for the cost of removing or deporting the illegal alien from the United States. The bill would also mandate that Social Security cards include physical security features, including an encrypted machine-readable electronic identification strip to prevent tampering, counterfeiting, or duplication of the card for fraudulent purposes. As the 110th Congress moves forward, Congressman Miller will continue to support efforts to crack down on employers and strengthen our nation's immigration laws.

City of La Habra Adopts the Screaming Eagles

Congressman Miller continues to salute cities in the 42nd Congressional District who support our military. In 2003, the City of La Habra adopted Charlie Company 426, Brigade Support Battalion, 101st Airborne Division of the U.S. Army. Since then, the City has sent care packages and honored the unit with banners proudly displayed throughout the community. For more information on how to participate in this worthwhile program, please contact the City of La Habra at (562) 905-9701.

Good News from the IRS

The IRS is giving taxpayers two things that everyone wants, more time and more money. First, the deadline to file 2006 tax returns has been extended to Tuesday, April 17 because the traditional day to file, April 15, falls on a Sunday and Monday, April 16 is Emancipation Day, a legal holiday in the District of Columbia. Secondly, the IRS is refunding federal excise taxes paid on long-distance telephone charges billed between February 28, 2003 and August 1, 2006. You can choose either a standard refund, between \$30 to \$60 based on the number of exemptions you claim, or the actual amount paid if you have your telephone bills from that 41-month billing period. More information can be found online at www.irs.gov.

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