

---

# CAPITOL CONNECTION

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

**Congressman Gary G. Miller**  
**42<sup>nd</sup> District, California**



---

July 27, 2007

## **Congressman Miller Secures Funding for Additional Local Projects**

This week, the House passed two more appropriations bills to fund the essential priorities of our nation, as well as important local community projects. The Fiscal Year 2008 Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill includes \$250,000 to realign Fairfield Ranch Road in the City of Chino Hills to address public safety issues caused by flash flooding. The bill also includes \$1 million to promote the development and preservation of affordable rental housing in Southern California and around the nation. In addition, the Fiscal Year 2008 Commerce, Justice, and Science Appropriations bill provides \$53,000 to improve law enforcement technology in the City of La Habra, \$47,000 to purchase police service equipment for the City of Rancho Santa Margarita, and \$275,000 to implement a gang violence prevention program in affordable housing properties. Congressman Miller was proud to support these requests because he believes they are critical to addressing regional transportation deficiencies, promoting affordable and safe housing, and strengthening our local law enforcement agencies.

## **House Approves Immigration Amendments**

During consideration of two annual appropriations bills this week, House Republicans secured passage of a number of strong border security and immigration provisions. On Tuesday, the House overwhelmingly passed an amendment coauthored by Congressman Miller to stop the implementation of a program to allow Mexican trucks to make international deliveries throughout the United States. Earlier this month, Congressman Miller sent a letter to the President asking for the suspension of the program until homeland security, immigration, and safety concerns had been addressed. In addition, the House provided \$40 million in funding to prosecute illegal border crossers and alien smugglers along the Southern border, stripped federal funding to cities that refuse to report illegal aliens, and increased reimbursements to state and local law enforcement for incarcerating illegal aliens. Congressman Miller will continue to support efforts to provide additional resources necessary to track down, prosecute, and incarcerate illegal aliens.

## **Congressman Miller Continues to Support Wrongly Convicted Border Patrol Agents**

This week, the House passed an amendment requiring the release of imprisoned border patrol agents, Ramos and Compean. The agents are currently serving 11 and 12 year federal prison sentences for shooting at a drug smuggler transporting 750 pounds of marijuana across the border. Because repeated calls for a pardon have gone unanswered, during consideration of the annual appropriations bill to fund the Department of Justice, House Republicans offered an amendment to require the Bureau of Federal Prisons to release Agents Ramos and Compean. As this bill moves to the Senate, Congressman Miller will work to ensure this provision is passed into law. In the meantime, Congressman Miller is joining his colleagues in sending a letter to the President to again request the pardon of Agents Ramos and Compean.

## **Cleveland National Forest to Host Land Management Open Houses**

The Cleveland National Forest will be hosting a series of public open houses to provide updated information on upcoming projects and asking the public to provide input on several projects currently underway. In particular, the Forest will be asking for the public's input on the Off-Highway Route Designation process and the Proposed Seasonal Closure to Protect Nesting Raptors Project. The open houses will take place Tuesday, July 31 at the Corona Public Library from 5:30-7:30 P.M. and Wednesday, August 1 at the San Juan Capistrano Community Center from 5:30-7:30 P.M. For more information, please visit [www.fs.fed.us/r5/cleveland](http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/cleveland) or contact Congressman Miller's office at (714) 257-1142.