
CAPITOL CONNECTION

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

Congressman Gary G. Miller
42nd District, California



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Narrow House Majority Approves Largest Tax Increase in American History

On Thursday, the House passed a Fiscal Year 2008 Budget Resolution that ends tax relief for millions of American families, increases federal spending, and ignores needed fiscal reforms. This resolution sets forth a budgetary blueprint that represents the largest tax increase in American history, taking almost \$400 billion from taxpayers' wallets. The tax hike provided for in this bill would impact more than 12.8 million Californians, increasing their taxes by an average amount of \$3,331. During debate on the resolution, Congressman Miller supported an alternative budget that would have balanced the federal budget in five years without raising taxes while also reforming entitlement spending and fully funding the Global War on Terror. Unfortunately, this alternative failed and the underlying resolution passed by a vote of 216 to 210. As the Fiscal Year 2008 budgetary process moves forward, Congressman Miller will continue working to fully fund the vital needs of our nation within a fiscally responsible and sensible framework.

House Votes to Improve Health Care System for Injured Veterans

On Wednesday, the House unanimously passed the Wounded Warrior Assistance Act to address the recent concerns raised about dilapidated conditions at military health care facilities and problems experienced by wounded servicemembers in navigating the military medical bureaucracy. The Wounded Warrior Assistance Act creates a new system of case managers, advocates, and counselors for servicemembers returning from combat to help them get the care they need. Congressman Miller was proud to support this legislation and he will continue working to ensure that the men and women of our Armed Forces are properly cared for after they have risked so much on our behalf.

Congressman Miller Opposes Amnesty and Urges Worksite Enforcement

Congressman Miller this week joined several members of the Immigration Reform Caucus in sending a letter to Speaker Pelosi urging her to oppose any effort to give amnesty to illegal aliens. His letter reminds the Speaker that amnesty will only hurt American workers and taxpayers while rewarding lawbreakers, and asks that no bill containing amnesty be considered on the House floor. In addition, Congressman Miller sent a letter to President Bush urging him to give American workers the opportunities they deserve by continuing to crack down on employers that are hiring illegal immigrants. More than just disregarding federal law, those who hire illegal aliens are also creating unfair competition in the labor market which depresses wages for American workers. Moving forward, Congressman Miller will continue fighting to stop illegal immigration by eliminating the incentives for illegals to come and work in the United States.

Congressman Miller Secures Funding for High-Speed Train

On Monday, Congressman Miller secured \$45 million in funding to build a 269-mile MAGLEV corridor from Anaheim to Las Vegas. MAGLEV, short for magnetic levitation, is a high-speed transportation system that uses electromagnetic force to propel railcars at speeds of up to 300 miles-an-hour. The high-speed railway will start in Anaheim, stop briefly at Ontario International Airport, and continue on to Las Vegas in only 86 minutes. Once approved by the Senate, this funding will provide the initial federal investment needed to begin construction of the MAGLEV project in Las Vegas. As the project moves forward, Congressman Miller will continue making it a top priority to improve transportation and reduce congestion throughout Southern California.