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# 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**



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February 13, 2009

## **House Passes Massive Spending Bill, Saddling Future Generations with Massive Debt**

This week, the House passed a massive \$787 billion spending package which was crafted by the Democrat Leadership in haste, behind closed doors, and without input from Republicans. Rather than pass a bill that actually stimulates the economy, this so-called stimulus represents a litany of extraneous spending that will do nothing to create jobs and help hardworking families struggling to make ends meet. For example, the bill contains \$300 million for the federal government to buy plug-in cars; \$1 billion for a new “Prevention and Wellness Fund”, which would be available for education programs on sexually transmitted disease prevention; and \$2 billion for “Neighborhood Stabilization”, money which will be available to ACORN, an organization accused of perpetrating voter registration fraud numerous times in the last several elections. According to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, the package will actually lead to a lower Gross Domestic Product over the next ten years than if the government had done nothing. In addition, the Majority’s nearly trillion-dollar spending spree increases the federal debt limit to over \$12 trillion, provides only \$1.10 per day in tax relief to workers, and saddles every American family with \$6,500 in added debt. Congressman Miller voted against this outrageous bill because he believes that wasteful Washington spending will only place the American people at greater financial risk in the future. He is disappointed that the Democrat Leadership has rushed to pass a bill that wastes billions of taxpayer dollars on pet projects and payouts to special interest groups rather than coming together in a bipartisan way to implement a plan that stimulates the economy and creates jobs.

## **Stimulus Strips E-Verify Protections for American Workers**

During the House and Senate negotiations for the final stimulus package this week, two provisions strengthening E-Verify were removed from the bill without discussion or debate. E-Verify is a successful and commonsense program which checks workers’ names and Social Security numbers to confirm employment eligibility and is currently set to expire in less than a month. These provisions would have protected American jobs by reauthorizing E-Verify for another five years and also mandating entities receiving stimulus funds to participate in the program. By removing these safeguards for American workers, The Heritage Foundation estimates that the stimulus will create as many as 300,000 jobs for illegal aliens using taxpayer dollars. Congressman Miller is outraged that the final bill places illegal immigrant interests above those of hard-working American families. Congressman Miller has repeatedly authored and co-authored legislation to strengthen and expand the E-Verify program and will continue to work in Congress to stop illegals from taking American jobs.

## **Congressman Miller Reintroduces Sweeping Immigration Legislation**

To address our nation’s immigration crisis, Congressman Miller reintroduced H.R. 994, the Loophole Elimination and Verification Enforcement Act, also known as the LEAVE Act, on Wednesday. Each year, California households pay an average of \$1,183 to provide health care, education, and incarceration to illegal immigrants. In these economically challenging times, there is no reason that hard-working California families should be forced to bear these costs. The LEAVE Act takes an enforcement first approach to solve these problems by removing the incentives and loopholes in our current laws that encourage illegal aliens to come to the United States to live, work, and overstay their visas. In addition, this sweeping legislation gives law enforcement the tools they need to protect our nation and communities. Among its many provisions, the LEAVE Act dramatically tightens the forms of identification that may be accepted by the federal government and financial institutions; expands the E-Verify program to require all employers to confirm the work eligibility of their employees; and prevents illegals from receiving Social Security credit for illegally working in the United States. The LEAVE Act also ends birthright citizenship, excludes illegals from receiving in-state college tuition, requires the completion of the border fence, and mandates the hiring of 8,000 new Border Patrol agents by 2014. Congressman Miller is proud to reintroduce the LEAVE Act because he believes it is critical that we reduce our nation’s illegal immigrant population.

### **Stay Informed During an Emergency**

In light of the recent fires that swept the 42nd Congressional District, Congressman Miller would like to make sure that every constituent is informed during an emergency. All residents of Orange County can sign up for Alert OC, a reverse 911 system which notifies residents and business owners of emergencies in their cities. To register, Orange County residents can visit [www.alertoc.com](http://www.alertoc.com). The cities of Anaheim, Chino, and Chino Hills also offer alert systems for residents and business owners. To sign up for these alerts, visit [www.anaheimalert.net](http://www.anaheimalert.net), [www.chinohills.org](http://www.chinohills.org), and [www.cityofchino.org](http://www.cityofchino.org), respectively. Information is critical and time-sensitive during emergencies and Congressman Miller encourages constituents to do everything possible to stay informed.

### **Congressman Miller to Undergo Reconstructive Shoulder Surgery**

In a couple of weeks, Congressman Miller is scheduled to undergo reconstructive shoulder surgery. Although the surgery was originally scheduled for the December district work period, it was postponed due to an unrelated family medical emergency. According to his doctor's orders, Congressman Miller will be restricted from traveling to Washington, D.C. for several weeks. During this time, Congressman Miller plans to stay in contact with his constituents in the 42nd Congressional District and will continue to monitor legislation being considered in the House of Representatives. Both his Washington and Brea offices will remain open during this time and his staff will continue to provide constituent services.