



January 15, 2010

### **Members of Congress Return to Washington**

This week, Members of the House of Representatives have returned to Washington to begin the second session of the 111th Congress. In the next session, the House is expected to consider several pieces of legislation, including action on a final health care reform bill and possibly consideration of an amnesty bill. As the recession continues to linger and jobs continue to be lost, Congressman Miller will keep focusing on revitalizing our ailing economy and putting Americans back to work. Furthermore, he will continue to fight hard against legislation that increases taxes, grows government, and rewards bad behavior.

### **House and Senate Leaders Negotiate Final Health Care Bill Behind Closed Doors**

Following the passage of the Senate's health care bill on Christmas Eve, Congressional Democrat leaders and others are once again meeting behind closed doors to craft legislation that will transform one-sixth of our economy and impact the lives of virtually every American. On several occasions during the last presidential campaign, then-Senator Barack Obama pledged that health care reform negotiations would be broadcast live on C-SPAN. Although C-SPAN last week called on congressional leaders to carry out President Obama's "C-SPAN pledge," Speaker Pelosi and Senator Majority Leader Reid have refused this request and consequently have denied the American people full access to health care reform negotiations. As many Americans have expressed strong opposition to the Majority's plans for health care reform that will raise taxes, raise health care costs, and increase federal spending, Congressman Miller will continue to stand by the American people in support of an open legislative process.

### **Current Trends and Recent History Demonstrate Amnesty is Bad for America**

As the Majority recently unveiled mass amnesty legislation, one of the most alarming provisions is that it will grant amnesty to an estimated 12 million illegal aliens while the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is currently unable to keep up with its existing workload. According to a recent report by the Centers for Immigration Studies, USCIS currently has a backlog of nearly 2.7 million immigration applications and petitions that are pending review. Since USCIS is already backlogged with processing just 640,000 new immigrants a year, the mass amnesty legislation is highly problematic because it will literally dump tens of millions of new forms into the agency's service centers over a very short time period. What is worse, in years past when USCIS was asked to clear the backlog of citizenship applications, agency employees skipped critical steps which resulted in the erroneous naturalization of thousands of ineligible immigrants. Congressman Miller, for this and several other reasons, is deeply opposed to granting amnesty to the millions that have recklessly disregarded our nation's immigration laws and will fight against this questionable legislation.

### **House Passed At Least \$1.171 Trillion in Tax Increases in 2009**

In 2009, the Democrat-controlled House passed several major tax provisions that will, if enacted, increase taxes by at least \$1.171 trillion on American families and employers over the next decade. Some of the legislation with major tax provisions includes the expansion of the State Children's Health Insurance Program, the so-called stimulus, cap-and-tax legislation, the government-run health care bill, and the second stimulus. At the same time as major tax provisions have been passed, the Majority has also increased domestic spending for Fiscal Year 2010 by nearly 14 percent. While the United States already has one of the highest tax rates in the world, Congressman Miller is deeply troubled by the Majority's trend of increasing taxes on American employers and families. Rather than continue on the dangerous cycle of taxing, borrowing and spending, Congressman Miller believes Washington must reign in wasteful government spending and lower taxes.