



July 8, 2011

House Approves FY 2012 Defense Funding Measure

This week, the House passed legislation to provide funding for the Defense Department and overseas operations for Fiscal Year 2012. The bill provides a total of \$530 billion in non-emergency funding, \$9 billion less than President Obama's request. This includes \$132.1 billion to provide a 1.6% pay raise for our nation's 1.4 million active duty troops and nearly 850,000 reserve members. Additionally, the bill appropriates \$119 billion in emergency spending for the U.S. missions in Afghanistan and Iraq, as well as for other defense activities related to the Global War on Terror, a reduction of \$39 billion from last year due to the drawdown of U.S. forces overseas. The appropriations measure also prohibits funding for the transfer of Guantanamo Bay detainees to the United States. As Congress continues consideration of this measure, Congressman Miller will continue working to bring fiscal responsibility to Washington, while ensuring our troops get the resources they need.

CBO Report Confirms U.S. Facing Worsening Debt Crisis

The non-partisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has released a report showing just how dire our nation's looming debt crisis is. The CBO projects that government spending as a share of the economy will increase by nearly 70 percent between now and 2035, up from the historical average of 20 percent. As a result of massive unchecked federal spending – driven primarily by entitlement programs - the U.S. debt could amount to 190 percent of the nation's economy by 2035. The projection also affirms the failure of the President's health care overhaul to curb the cost of health care, as mandatory federal spending on health care is projected to increase by 86 % by 2035. To get our economy back on track, Congressman Miller believes Congress must act now to cut excess and unnecessary spending and implement meaningful budget reforms that will get our debt under control.

Troubling Jobs Report Shows Unemployment Rising as Hiring Comes to a Halt

Today the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) announced that unemployment rose to 9.2% in the month of June, with an anemic 18,000 jobs added to the economy. This represents the fewest new jobs created in nine months, and falls dramatically short of the 150,000 new jobs that the BLS estimates needs to be created each month just to keep pace with population growth. Unfortunately, the President and congressional Democrats have continued to call for more stimulus spending and massive tax hikes on American families and small businesses. To put Americans back to work, Congressman Miller remains committed to pursuing a pro-growth agenda that will put an end to reckless deficit spending, reduce our national debt, and restore confidence among the public sector to expand and hire new workers.

Nationwide IRS Open House

On Saturday, July 16, 2011, the Internal Revenue Service will be hosting a nationwide Open House to provide free assistance to taxpayers who need help resolving tax problems. IRS personnel will be available on-site, or by telephone, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. local time, to aid taxpayers regarding issues involving notices and payments, return preparation, audits, disaster information, tax law information, and a variety of other issues. To locate a participating Taxpayer Assistance Center nearest you, visit the IRS website at www.irs.gov, or call: 1-800-906-9887. For more information on this or issues concerning other federal agencies, contact Congressman Miller's Brea office at (714) 257-1142.