



March 12, 2010

### **President's Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Slashes Immigration Enforcement Programs**

Just as Democrats are preparing for a big push to pass amnesty legislation, the President's fiscal year 2011 budget proposal slashes funding for several key immigration enforcement programs from last year's enacted levels. Specifically, the President's FY 2011 budget reduces funding for the Secure Border Initiative—a comprehensive, multi-year plan to help secure America's borders through fencing, infrastructure, and technology—by \$226 million. In addition, the budget cuts funding for United States Visitor and Immigrant Status Indicator Technology (US-VISIT), which is an entry-exit tracking program that collects information on foreign nationals when they enter the United States. Despite a recent Government Accountability Office report finding the completion date for US-VISIT is unclear, the President's FY 2011 budget has proposed a \$39 million cut to US-VISIT, from \$374 million last year to \$335 million in the coming fiscal year. Lastly, the President's budgetary blueprint for fiscal year 2011 provides for the reduction of 180 Border Patrol agents. As the drug-related violence along the Southwest border has increased over the last year, Congressman Miller is deeply troubled by these unprecedented cuts and will work with his colleagues in Congress to secure our borders and safeguard our communities.

### **House Rejects Resolution to Pull Troops from Afghanistan**

On Wednesday, the House of Representatives rejected a resolution by 356-65 to withdraw U.S. troops from Afghanistan by the end of the year. Congressman Miller opposed this resolution because it undermines the mission of the U.S. and its allies in Afghanistan, demoralizes the troops and their families, and emboldens America's enemies, who gain strength from American weaknesses, retreats, and failures. The rejection of this resolution follows President Obama's decision to begin a troop surge of 30,000 in early 2010. The President also ordered that after 18 months, troops will begin to leave Afghanistan. Since it began, the surge has proven successful in capturing numerous Taliban leaders and liberating key areas of Afghanistan. Congressman Miller is grateful to our men and women who selflessly defend our nation and freedoms and will continue to support their vital mission in Afghanistan.

### **Majority Unveils \$100 Billion Bureaucrat Bailout Bill**

This week, House Democrats once again unveiled legislation to grow the federal government: a \$100 billion bailout for state and local government bureaucrats. While state governments, like California, have refused to make tough budgetary decisions, this legislation uses deficit spending to bail them out for their unwise fiscal choices. This bill comes in addition to the \$17.6 billion so-called jobs package passed by the House last week and the \$787 billion stimulus package enacted over a year ago. This new bureaucrat bailout bill follows a harrowing trend led by the Democrat Majority to grow the size and scope of government. Over the last two years, the number of government employees has increased from 22.3 million in January 2008 to 22.4 million in January 2010. At the same time, the number of private sector jobs decreased from 115.5 million in January 2008 to 107 million. This means that 8.5 million jobs were lost in the private sector while the public sector gained almost 100,000 jobs. What is more, one out of every six people in California now works for the government. Rather than continue spending billions of dollars we do not have to grow government, Congressman Miller believes Congress must pass legislation that releases the resources and creativity of the American people through fast acting tax relief to struggling families and small businesses.

### **Congressional Gold Medal Awarded to Women Airforce Service Pilots**

On Wednesday, the Congressional Gold Medal was awarded to the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) of World War II. More than sixty years ago, the WASP were the first women in history to fly American military aircraft, including fighter, bomber, transport, and training aircraft in defense of America's freedom. In order to serve their country, the WASP faced overwhelming cultural and gender bias for their nontraditional roles, but through their actions they eventually were the catalyst for revolutionary reform in the integration of women pilots into the Armed Services. Congressman Miller is pleased the Congressional Gold Medal has been awarded to the WASP, especially to the several WASP survivors who live in Southern California, and commends them for their pioneering military service and exemplary record.

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