



October 14, 2011

### **House Approves Long-Awaited Free Trade Agreements**

This week, the House of Representatives took an important step to growing our economy by passing three vital trade agreements that will increase U.S. competitiveness in the global economy and benefit millions of American workers. As the vast majority of the world's purchasing power, economic growth, and consumers are outside of the United States, trade supports more than 38 million jobs - including over 193,000 in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District. The three free trade agreements with South Korea, Columbia, and Panama will offer countless opportunities for U.S. workers, farmers, ranchers, and manufacturers by leveling the playing field for exports of U.S. goods and products into some of the world's largest and growing markets. Congressman Miller believes that opening markets and encouraging free and fair trade with these countries will help keep and create jobs here at home while ensuring that American goods and services reach as many corners of the globe as possible.

### **Bill to Prevent Taxpayer Funding of Abortion Passes House**

One of the most disturbing aspects of the Democrat health care law enacted last year is the lack of a statutory prohibition on the use of federal funds to pay for abortions. While President Obama signed an executive order to address these concerns, the order can be rescinded at any time by his administration or a future president. On Thursday, the House passed legislation that will prohibit federal funding of abortions and abortion coverage under the health care law. The Protect Life Act also includes conscience protections for health care workers and ensures that private insurance companies will not be forced under the law to cover abortion. While Congressman Miller strongly supports a full repeal of the health care law, he believes this legislation is essential to protecting taxpayer dollars and building a culture of life in America.

### **House Votes to Rein in Costly New EPA Regulations on Industrial Boilers**

Last year, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed a rule establishing new emissions standards for boiler units, which are widely used by industry and commercial establishments and institutions as a power and heat source. Concerns have been raised however about the potential economic impact of the proposed regulations, including the imposition of billions of dollars in compliance costs on U.S. manufacturers and the loss of thousands of high-paying jobs. According to one recent study, the new standards could cost California over \$56 million this year and place 900 jobs in the state at risk. This week, the House passed legislation that would require the EPA to formulate new rules within 15 months that are achievable and gives facilities at least 5 years to install needed equipment to comply with the rules. Congressman Miller will continue working to ensure that the federal government takes into account both economic and environmental impacts when considering new regulations.

### **Responsible Coal Ash Management Legislation Passes House**

Today, the House passed a bill to protect the beneficial use of coal ash while also protecting our environment. From 1999 to 2009, 519 million tons of coal ash has been successfully recycled, representing nearly 40 percent of the 1.35 billion tons produced. Under the EPA's proposed regulatory plan, coal ash would be classified as a hazardous material, discouraging recycling the material for use in cement and drywall and imposing significant costs on American industries. H.R. 2273, the Coal Residuals Reuse and Management Act would substitute the EPA's current proposal to regulate coal ash with a program that would establish enforceable minimum federal coal ash standards, but leave regulation and enforcement to the individual states. Congressman Miller supported this legislation that will help to protect our environment without imposing higher costs on employers.