News from **Congressman Pat Toomey**

Pennsylvania's 15th Congressional District

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Toomey: Congress Must Reduce Federal Spending

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Fiscally conservative U.S. Rep. Pat Toomey, R-PA, released the following statement on Thursday regarding Fiscal Year 2005 budget priorities.

"President Bush's budgetary goal of reducing discretionary spending growth is a step in the right direction. I believe we can go further. And, with our nation facing its largest deficit in history, we must," Toomey said.

"To get our nation's financial situation in shape, Congress must be willing to tackle difficult funding decisions. Unfortunately we in Congress have too often added program after program to the federal bureaucracy without reprioritizing our spending habits. The result is a massive \$2.2 trillion dollar budget that includes funding for countless programs and agencies whose purposes are duplicative or unnecessary. Congress must start cutting out needless programs entirely and freeze spending on lower-priority programs in order to achieve fiscal discipline.

"Just as families must prioritize their spending, Congress must prioritize how we are going to spend taxpayers' money," Toomey said.

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