

**Wally
Herger**
Congressman

2nd District - California



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Herger Blasts Judge's Ruling that Pledge of Allegiance Violates the Constitution

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) - Congressman Wally Herger (CA-02) today sharply criticized a federal judge's decision on September 14, 2005 that voluntary recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in public schools violates the Constitution. Congressman Herger had the following comment on the ruling:

"Judge Karlton's decision continues the decades-old pattern of increased hostility toward religion in American public life," Herger said. "Our founders, who, among other actions, hired paid chaplains for Congress, routinely issued proclamations of thanksgiving to God, and on countless occasions proclaimed the 'indispensable' importance of religion in American life, would truly be appalled by the radical misinterpretation of the Establishment Clause that activist judges have devised. This ruling is another glaring demonstration of the need to appoint judges who will follow the original intent of the Constitution."

Herger concluded, "I have cosponsored two pieces of legislation currently pending in the House, the Pledge Protection Act and the Religious Freedom Amendment, to ensure that courts can't continue this assault on religion in public life. I applaud the president for pledging to appoint judges who respect and follow the Constitution. Likewise, I will continue to work to restore the proper role of public religious expression in America."

For more information, log on to <http://www.house.gov/herger> on the Internet!