

# Wally Herger

Congressman

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## **Herger Backs Measures Protecting American Taxpayers**

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) - Congressman Herger this week voted for measures that would help reduce fraudulent and unwise use of taxpayer money. On Tuesday, he supported H.R. 4356, the Emergency and Disaster Assistance Fraud Penalty Enhancement Act of 2005, which would crack down on fraudsters who improperly use emergency and disaster benefit funding. Today, he voted for H.R. 4890, the Legislative Line Item Veto Act of 2006, which he cosponsored. It would bring greater accountability to federal spending by allowing the President and Congress to single out specific items in appropriations bills and consider them on their own merits. Herger had the following reaction after House passage of these measures:

"Americans have a right to know their hard earned tax dollars are not being misspent," Herger stated. "For this reason, I supported two measures this week to reduce government fraud and rein in some of the out of control spending in Washington.

"The first measure would increase penalties on those individuals who defraud the federal government through misuse of taxpayer money. Some of the stories we're hearing about the waste, fraud and abuse of federal dollars that were supposed to go to help victims of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita are infuriating. According to a recent government report, between a few hundred million and a billion dollars went to everything from vacations to designer clothes and elective surgeries. The bill considered by Congress this week, HR 4356, would increase maximum fines and jail time for such abuses, and would hopefully deter such flagrant abuses in the future.

"The Legislative Line Item Veto would help us start to rein in out-of-control federal spending, added Herger. "Bringing more accountability to the federal budget process is something every member of Congress should embrace. The passage of this measure represents an important first step toward a more rational budget process that encourages fiscal responsibility, instead of making it easy to pile even more debt onto future generations."

To listen to Congressman Herger's radio actuality on the Legislative Line Item Veto Act, visit <http://www.GOP.gov/mediaclips/4374/40/437440.rm> on the Internet.

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