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**DESPITE HUGE JOBS DEFICIT, BUSH SUPPORTS
SHIFT OF AMERICAN JOBS OVERSEAS**

Washington, D.C. – The Economic Report of the President (ERP) released yesterday supports foreign “outsourcing”— the shift of Americans jobs overseas. N. Gregory Mankiw, President Bush’s Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers (CEA), yesterday told the *Los Angeles Times*, “Outsourcing is just a new way of doing international trade.” The ERP acknowledges that this disruption is painful in the short-run, but argues that it benefits the economy in the long-run.

Reacting to the report and the CEA Chairman’s comments, **Rep. Pete Stark (D-CA), Senior Democrat** on the **Joint Economic Committee (JEC)** today said:

“President Bush’s tax and trade policies have fueled this trend in outsourcing, which has clearly contributed to job losses in our economy over the past three years. President Bush stands idly by as jobs continue to take flight from the U.S., and now we know why – it’s part of his economic plan.

“Meanwhile, President Bush has done almost nothing to ease the pain of workers who have lost their jobs to outsourcing. He has allowed temporary federal unemployment insurance benefits to expire, even though we still have a huge jobs deficit and long-term unemployment remains high. In addition, programs for dislocated workers and employment and training programs have also been cut. President Bush obviously has no compassion for American workers.

“Clearly, neither keeping jobs in the U.S. nor helping Americans find work is a priority for this President.”

President Bush is on track to be the first President since Herbert Hoover to end his term with fewer jobs than when he started. Since job losses peaked at 2.6 million in August, employers have created about 73,000 jobs per month, on average. At that pace, it would take nearly 2½ years to erase the current jobs deficit. President Bush would end his term in January 2005 with a deficit of nearly 1½ million jobs. Job creation would have to average 186,000 jobs per month from February 2004 to January 2005 just to erase the current 2.2 million Bush jobs deficit completely.

Overall, there are 8.3 million unemployed Americans, and about 4.9 million additional workers who want a job but are not counted among the unemployed. An additional 4.7 million people work part-time because of the weak economy.

The Joint Economic Committee, established under the Employment Act of 1946, was created by Congress to review economic conditions and to analyze the effectiveness of economic policy.