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**Rep. Stark Announces Appointment of Wendell Primus  
As Minority Staff Director at Joint Economic Committee**

*Washington, D.C.* – The Honorable Pete Stark (D-CA) announces the appointment of Dr. Wendell E. Primus as Minority Staff Director at the Joint Economic Committee (JEC). “It is a pleasure for me to welcome Wendell back to the Congressional staff,” said Congressman Stark, who is the Ranking Democrat on the JEC. “His objective expertise in analyzing the economic and social policies of this Administration will greatly aid us in considering these policies.”

Prior to his appointment, Dr. Primus was Director of Income Security at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities where he primarily worked on unemployment insurance, welfare, child support, and Social Security issues. Dr. Primus served on the Committee on Ways and Means staff for some 15 years as staff economist, chief economist and as staff director of the Subcommittee on Human Resources. He was editor of the Committee's Green Book. He also served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Human Services Policy at the Department of Health and Human Services during the Clinton Administration.

“This is a real privilege and I look forward to directing an excellent professional staff at the Joint Economic Committee and providing advice and counsel to the Members of the Committee,” said Dr. Primus upon his appointment. “We will be a watchdog on the economy, examining key policy questions and their effects on economic growth, employment, and income distribution,” said Primus.

Major areas of focus for the committee will include the economic impact of tax and budget policy, Social Security reform, prescription drug plans and health care reform, energy prices and taxes, welfare reform, and unemployment insurance policies.

*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.*

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