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**OMB DIRECTOR PORTMAN PRAISES SENATE FOR SUPPORTING INCREASED
TRANSPARENCY IN FEDERAL SPENDING**

WASHINGTON – Today, OMB Director Rob Portman applauded the Senate for its unanimous approval of S. 2590, the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006.

“Federal funding should be used to achieve measurable results for Americans, and wasteful and ineffective spending should be eliminated. That’s why we welcome the Senate’s unanimous approval of a bill to increase transparency and accountability. I particularly appreciate the leadership of Senator Tom Coburn of Oklahoma and Senator Barack Obama of Illinois in spearheading this effort.

“The House – led by Majority Whip Roy Blunt of Missouri and Rep. Tom Davis of Virginia – has approved a similar measure, H.R. 5060, the Federal Spending and Assistance Bill. This bill would also improve the quality and accessibility of information about federal spending.

“American taxpayers benefit from having the necessary information to hold government accountable for results. The Administration is committed to the goals of these two measures, and I look forward to working with the House and Senate to enact a bill that accomplishes them.

“OMB stands ready to work with federal agencies to establish a single, user-friendly website so that the public can scrutinize how government is spending taxpayer dollars.”

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