



For Immediate Release
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Key Element of Blue Dog Fiscal Reform Blueprint Passes House

Pennsylvania Representative Patrick Murphy leads Blue Dog efforts to eliminate \$98 billion in wasteful government spending

Washington, DC – Today, bipartisan legislation to eliminate \$98 billion lost to waste, fraud and abuse due to poor oversight on the part of federal agencies passed in the U.S. House of Representatives. The *Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Act (IPERA)*, legislation championed by Blue Dog member Representative Patrick Murphy (D-PA) and Representative Brian Bilbray (R-CA), is a key component of the Blue Dog Blueprint for Fiscal Reform.

“I am proud to pass this bill to ensure we cut down on wasteful government spending,” said Representative Murphy.

“At a time when American families are tightening their belts, there is no excuse for a single taxpayer dollar to be wasted on overpayments or careless accounting mistakes,” said Representative Jim Matheson, Blue Dog Co-Chair for Communications. “This is a great example of the type of bipartisan, commonsense legislation that will help restore much needed fiscal discipline to the federal government.”

The *Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Act (IPERA)* would reduce the estimated \$98 billion in improper payments – those that occur when a federal agency pays too much or pays twice for a product or service. Eliminating improper payments is a critical component of the [Blue Dog Blueprint for Fiscal Reform](#), a comprehensive plan to reduce the deficit, balance the budget and lay the groundwork for sound fiscal policies over the long term.

The fiscally conservative Democratic Blue Dog Coalition was formed in 1995 with the goal of representing the center of the House of Representatives and appealing to the mainstream values of the American public. The Blue Dogs are dedicated to a core set of beliefs that transcend partisan politics, including a deep commitment to the financial stability and national security of the United States. Currently there are 54 members of the Blue Dog Coalition. For more information, visit the [Blue Dog website](#).

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