



CONGRESSMAN WALLY HERGER

Representing California's 2nd Congressional District

February 2008

Dear Friends:

Just a few weeks after completing business in 2007, Congress launched its 2008 session in mid January. My top priorities continue to be supporting the men and women in uniform who are protecting our national security, and supporting tax relief and regulatory reforms to ensure that job creation and economic growth in our nation remain strong. I will also continue to push for energy policies that focus on reducing our nation's dependence on foreign oil and truly address skyrocketing gas prices, and for immediate action to secure our borders.

As these and other issues are debated in our nation's capital, it is always helpful to get your feedback and suggestions. I'm excited that advanced technology allows you to offer your perspective more easily than ever before. I invite you to review the questionnaire inside and share your viewpoints with me. You can go to my website, www.house.gov/herger, and submit your response online. If you would prefer to mail me your answers, you can do that instead.

Also, I look forward to our next series of Tele Town Halls, which provide you the opportunity to share your questions and concerns directly with me. I have found that these in-home

conversations provide a great forum for discussing important issues with citizens across Northern California. Inside, you can find the date your hometown will be contacted in the coming days. I hope you can participate!

Lastly, I want to thank everyone who has signed up to receive "e-updates" on the issues most important to you. These periodic emails help you stay informed on what Congress is doing concerning the issues you care about. If you're interested in signing up, it takes just a minute to do so on my website.



Herger speaks at the Hamilton City Levee Festival in support of the construction of a new levee to protect this Glenn County community. Herger supported important legislation that allows construction to proceed on this flood control project, as well as a similar one designed to protect Marysville in Yuba County.

Visit us on the web: www.house.gov/herger

Congress Must Plant the Seeds of Prosperity Now

We have one of the most opportunity-rich and dynamic economies in the world, but there is no doubt that the economy's ups and downs affect us all. As American companies and small businesses face an uncertain economy, so too do employees and families. For example, when employers encounter higher costs for everyday business essentials like electricity, paying a mortgage on a building, and machinery, they may not have as much flexibility to hire new employees, retain current workers, or offer higher wages. In good times and bad, the well being of the wage payer and the wage earner go hand in hand.

Congress recently passed a "stimulus" package designed to provide a short-term boost to our economy. While I support putting tax dollars back in the hands of American

workers, I'm concerned Congress missed a prime opportunity to address the tax and regulatory challenges that pose the biggest risk to our continued economic growth and competitiveness.

I believe the best way to keep our economy growing—and Americans working—is to enact tax incentives that promote long-term growth and job creation. Businesses are already planning for tomorrow's economic environment, presuming that the majority will move forward with its plan to allow important tax relief passed since 2001—provisions like reductions in marginal and capital gains rates, repeal of the "death tax," and an increase in the child tax credit—to expire in 2010. This has a direct bearing on the hiring decisions that affect workers today. I believe Congress should act now to perma-

nently extend these lower rates and prevent a major tax increase on virtually every American.

I also believe we need to reduce taxes on U.S. employers. Although these taxes appeared competitive in the 1990s, we have ceded that competitive position as foreign countries have reduced their rates. As a result, we currently have the second highest business tax rate among the world's democratic market economies. We need to act now to enact lower, more competitive rates so we can keep good-paying jobs in America instead of shipping them overseas.

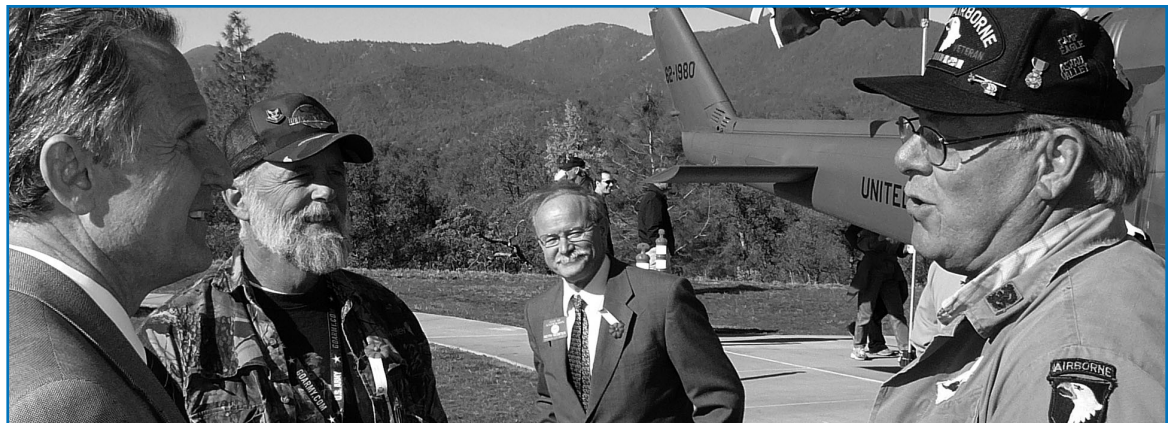
Congress can play an important role in responding to our current economic uncertainty. But it's critical that today's actions plant the seeds of prosperity for American workers and businesses in the long term.



Veterans History Project

Currently, over 20 million Americans are veterans of our Armed Forces, and every day 1,600 of them pass away. In order to preserve their stories Congress created the Veterans History Project, which helps veterans record their accounts for future generations. The Project accepts donated collections of war veterans' first-hand oral histories, photographs, letters, and other historical documents from World War I to current conflicts. For more information on how to submit materials or conduct interviews, please contact my Chico office at (530) 893-8363.

Herger speaks with Ron Webster about his experiences piloting a Huey helicopter in Vietnam. They met at a Veterans Day commemoration at the Northern California State Veterans Cemetery in Redding.



Reports from Washington

2008 Questionnaire – Offer Your Voice!

Please mark your responses, cut out this page and fold in thirds so return address on other side faces outward

	Constituent #1			Constituent #2		
	Y	N	Unsure	Y	N	Unsure
(1) Today, people who purchase health insurance on their own receive no tax benefit, unlike those who receive health insurance from their employer. Do you believe there should be an equal tax benefit for every American who has health insurance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(2) The Supreme Court is preparing to hear a case to determine whether the District of Columbia's ban on handguns is constitutional. Do you believe the Second Amendment protects the right of individuals to own firearms?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(3) Our current tax system costs Americans tens of millions of dollars in compliance costs each filing season. Would you support doing away with the existing tax code, including the many different tax credits and exclusions (such as the mortgage interest deduction), and replacing it with a simplified, lower flat rate system?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(4) Do you support our nation's intensified efforts to encourage Israeli and Palestinian leaders to reach a Middle East peace agreement?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(5) Do you believe foreign terrorist suspects should be entitled to U.S. constitutional protections?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Additional Feedback: _____



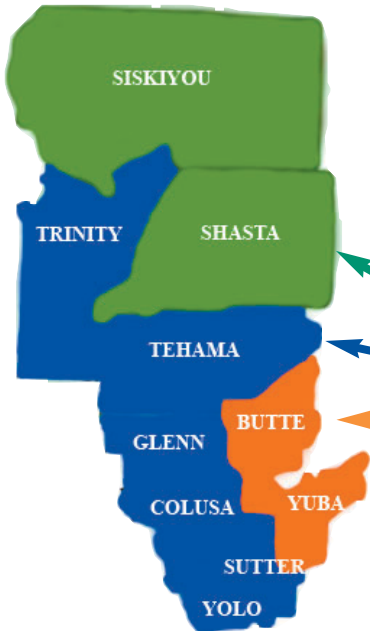
Herger discusses the implementation of the Medicare prescription drug benefit (Medicare Part D) with Brenda Balchus and Satinder Sanhu during a visit to a pharmacy in Yuba City.

Congressman Wally Herger
2268 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington DC 20515

Questionnaire
Enclosed

Please
place
stamp
here

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY/STATE/ZIP _____



Upcoming Tele Town Halls

Key for Map

- Green — February 26th
- Blue — February 28th
- Orange — March 4th

Each starting at
7:00 p.m. PST.

Serving You

As your representative in Washington, I have the privilege of offering several services to the citizens of Northern California. These include providing you a tour of the U.S. Capitol, requesting tours of the White House, Library of Congress, and National Cathedral, and assisting you in the purchase of flags flown over the U.S. Capitol. If you would like more information, feel free to visit www.house.gov/herger or contact one of my offices.

District Offices

Chico

55 Independence Circle
Suite 104
Chico, CA 95973
(530) 893-8363

Redding

410 Hemsted Drive
Suite 115
Redding, CA 96002
(530) 223-5898

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-3006

Official Business



Wally Herger

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