



**For Immediate Release  
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## **Obama Endorses Key Component of Blue Dog Fiscal Reform Blueprint**

*Rep. Patrick Murphy leads charge to eliminate wasteful government spending*

Washington, DC – Today, President Obama announced his support for efforts in Congress to reduce waste, fraud, and abuse resulting from lack of oversight on the part of federal agencies, a key component of the *Blue Dog Blueprint for Fiscal Reform*. Specifically, the President endorsed the *Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Act* (IPERA), legislation championed by Blue Dog member Representative Patrick Murphy (D-PA).

“I’m heartened to see that President Obama has endorsed this critical legislation – at a time when Pennsylvania families are watching our expenses, Americans expect government to do the same,” said Representative Murphy. “There is simply no excuse to lose billions of taxpayer dollars to improper payments every year.”

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. Improper payments may occur as a result of fraud, or from poor financial management systems that don’t detect mistakes before federal dollars are misspent. Eliminating improper payments is a critical component of recently released [Blue Dog Blueprint for Fiscal Reform](#).

*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 at <http://www.house.gov/melancon/BlueDogs/>.*

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