Congressman Jeff Flake

News Release

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Congressman Flake Calls for Review of Stevens Earmarks

Convicted Senator Received \$240 Million in Earmarks This Year

Washington, D.C. – Republican Congressmen Jeff Flake and John Campbell today sent a letter to the Chairmen of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees requesting that earmarks secured by Senator Ted Stevens in fiscal year 2008 be reviewed before they are awarded.

Senator Stevens was convicted last month of failing to report gifts.

"Despite the fact that Senator Stevens was under indictment for corruption charges, his 39 earmarks worth \$240 million received scant scrutiny this year," said Flake. "I would hope that his conviction spurs Congress to examine these earmarks more closely before they are awarded."

"If the Appropriations Committee isn't interested in scrutinizing the earmarks of a convicted Senator, I think we can fairly conclude that the Appropriations Committee isn't interested in scrutinizing earmarks at all."

A copy of the letter can be found here.

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