Representing North Carolina's Eleventh Congressional District

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Congressman Heath Shuler Addresses U.S. House for First Time and Votes to Return Fiscal Discipline to Congress

Washington, DC – Representative Heath Shuler gave his first speech today on the floor of the U.S. House discussing the importance of returning fiscal responsibility to Congress. Returning fiscal discipline and common-sense budgeting are a top priority for Rep. Shuler in the 110th Congress.

On the floor Shuler said, "The times of reckless and unchecked spending by Congress are over. It's time to budget with common-sense. Congress must live within its means, just like our families and our businesses."

After addressing the House, Rep. Shuler stood with Majority Leader Steny Hoyer and other members of the Blue Dog Caucus to discuss two measures included in the House rules package that are key to restoring accountability and fiscal discipline in government. Shuler

The rules package includes two principles of the Blue Dog Coalition's 12-point plan to end the nation's addiction to deficit spending. Specifically, the rules package requires pay-as-you-go budget discipline, known as "PAYGO," with no new deficit spending. The rules package also requires full transparency for earmarks to end their abuse by special interest groups.

"The American people have spoken very clearly on this issue. They are tired of Congress risking their children's future by borrowing billions of dollars from China for their dangerous deficit spending. It is our children and grandchildren that will be paying for these poor decisions," Shuler said. "With this PAYGO legislation we are taking the first steps to restoring fiscal sanity to our nation's budget. Congress must live within its means, just like our families and our businesses."

Shortly after the press conference Rep. Shuler cast his vote for the House rules.