

(Washington, DC) - **Congressman Wally Herger (R-CA) issued a statement in response to the House Budget Committee's approval of the President's budget.** The budget, which passed out of committee without any Republican support, will be debated and voted on by the full House of Representatives next week. **Congressman Herger announced his support for an alternative budget blueprint, unveiled today, to strengthen the economy and restore fiscal responsibility by letting families and small businesses keep more of what they earn; ensuring the federal budget doesn't grow faster than family budgets; committing to real entitlement reform and expanding Americans' access to affordable health care; and fighting inflation so prices of goods and services remain stable.** Herger's comments follow below:

"Under the President's budget, nearly every American will see their taxes increase through a massive energy tax hike that will cost up to \$3,128 per household. But this isn't nearly enough to cover the exploding deficits that President Obama and House Democrats are advocating. In fact, according to projections, the deficits over the next ten years will exceed all of our nation's previous deficits combined. While the economy is in the midst of a serious recession and Americans are being forced to tighten their belts, I find it reckless to pursue a path that will drop us so much further into debt.

"There are better solutions and that's why I am supporting an alternative budget blueprint, released today, that will limit spending, create jobs, lower taxes, and help bring our debt under control. America needs to keep spending at responsible levels to ensure that future generations have the same opportunities that we've had, instead of inheriting a mountain of debt. Lower taxes, especially on small businesses that would allow them to reinvest in their company, will help put our economy back on the right track. And we need to make certain that we avoid the policies of the 1970's which led to double-digit inflation and huge cost-of-living increases.

"We have to work to control our huge deficits, government intervention in the free market, and massive borrowing that will leave our children and grandchildren on the hook for our debts. Now is the time to put our fiscal house in order, but sadly, President Obama and House Democrats have put forth what is arguably the most fiscally irresponsible budget in our nation's history.

"When President Obama first proposed his budget, his administration estimated that it would add about \$7 trillion to the national debt over a ten-year period. But the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office states that the President's budget would actually increase in the

national debt by over \$9 trillion. If we follow this budget, we will face an unprecedented flow of red ink, with an average of nearly \$1 trillion in deficits in each of the next ten years. This budget spends too much, taxes too much, and borrows too much. The American people expect Congress to do what's right for our economy, and I am committed to working with the Congress to live up to that obligation.”