

(Washington, DC) - Congressman Wally Herger today voted in favor of H.R. 2642, which provides additional funding for our troops serving in Iraq and Afghanistan and expands educational benefits to U.S. military personnel who have served since the September 11 terrorist attacks. The measure does not include an arbitrary timeline for withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq. It also provides \$17.6 million for a new Child Development Center at Beale Air Force Base. Herger issued the following statement upon House passage of the bill:

“Congress has taken the right step by providing continued funding for our men and women serving in Iraq and Afghanistan without tying their commanders’ hands. Our troops are performing with unmatched honor and skill and are leading the effort to enhance our national security by transforming two formerly hostile regimes into U.S. allies in the war against radical jihadists. This measure ensures that our fighting forces will have the resources they need to successfully continue their mission.

“I’m also very pleased that the legislation improves educational opportunities for our troops after completing service in uniform. It covers the full cost of in-state tuition at any public university in their state, along with a monthly housing stipend, and authorizes the U.S. government to provide matching funds to private colleges that voluntarily contribute additional assistance for veterans. Further, it allows military personnel to transfer the benefits to their children and spouse. It demonstrates much-deserved gratitude to the men and women who have served and sacrificed on behalf of our nation.

“It’s also great news that the measure includes \$17.6 million for a much-needed new Child Development Center at Beale Air Force Base. The new facility will provide our young airmen with families the peace of mind that their children are in a safe, high-quality environment while on base. This significant upgrade will bolster quality of life for our men and women in uniform and help Beale maintain its reputation as one of the finest military bases in our nation. I applaud the Administration for recognizing the importance of a new Beale Child Development Center and supporting funding for it this year.”

Note: H.R. 2642 also extends federal unemployment insurance benefits in all states by an additional thirteen weeks. Importantly, it includes a twenty-week work requirement for individuals to be eligible for this benefit, something Herger and other House Republicans called for. The measure awaits consideration in the Senate, where it is expected to be approved. The President has indicated that he will sign the legislation into law.

To listen to Congressman Herger's radio actuality, click [here](#) .