

(Washington, DC) - Today Congressman Herger's Communications Director, Matt Lavoie, issued the following statement in response to media reports regarding a recent exchange between a constituent at a Redding town hall meeting on health care reform:

“Congressman Herger stands by his statement in support of his constituent. Mr. Bert Stead is a taxpayer and Veteran, who, like so many others, is rightfully fed up with being called “un-American”, or “extremist” or a “political terrorist” by liberals in Washington, for simply exercising his First Amendment rights,” **Lavoie said.** “Mr. Stead served his country and therefore he *is* a great American. The Congressman doesn't at all regret commending him for standing up, exercising his free speech rights, and expressing his strong concerns with the direction liberals in Washington are taking our country.”