

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Wally Herger (R-CA) released the following statement to announce this week’s [YouCut](#) winner, a proposal that would eliminate the Advanced Earned Income Tax Credit (AEITC), saving taxpayers \$1.1 billion over the next decade. The AEITC is not widely used by those eligible for the program and has been found to have a notoriously high rate of waste, fraud, and abuse. YouCut is a website that allows Americans to submit suggestions on how best to cut out of control federal spending. One of the selections is selected as a weekly winner and it is offered on the House floor. Thus far, the total amount of savings offered through YouCut legislation totals more than \$120 billion. To this point, House Democrats have turned their back on each opportunity to cut federal spending. Herger’s [remarks](#) follow below.

“Mr. Speaker, I urge the House to defeat the previous question on this rule so we can vote to end the advanced earned income tax credit. This year, the federal government is running a \$1.5 trillion deficit, and 43 cents of every dollar we’re spending is borrowed money. The American people want us to get spending under control, and the Republican YouCut initiative enables the people to vote on specific spending cuts.

“This week, YouCut participants have asked Congress to consider eliminating the advanced EITC. A GAO report found that the advanced EITC is unpopular with eligible taxpayers but disproportionately subject to fraud, with 20% of claimants lacking a valid Social Security number. Repealing the advance option would not affect low-income workers’ eligibility for the EITC, but it would save the taxpayers \$1.1 billion by cutting down on fraud and abuse.

“This is a bipartisan measure. In fact, President Obama included it in his budget for this year. By taking up this commonsense proposal, we can cut more than a billion dollars’ worth of fraud out of the federal budget. Let’s take this opportunity to show the American people we’re serious about tackling the deficit.”