

Right Now

## **Unemployment Report Shows Big Government is Not the Answer**

Recently the Department of Labor released the May jobs report – and I’m sorry to say the news isn’t good. This disappointing jobs report again showed us that President Obama’s policies are simply not working. As the Administration forced through big spending packages like the so-called stimulus and the new health care law, promises were made that it would create hundreds of thousands of jobs. Today, as our debt has skyrocketed, Northern Californians are left asking, ‘Where are they?’ All we have to show for this government expansion is more debt and greater uncertainty for America’s job creators. By every conceivable measure, the big spending, big government policies have failed.

The answers lie in American small businesses and free markets. Republicans in Congress are pursuing a fundamental reform of the U.S. tax code that will make America’s economy more competitive with countries in Europe and Asia and that will simplify the tax rules so businesses can focus their energy on creating jobs instead of filling out thousands of pages of tax forms. We are offering plans that would enact long-pending trade agreements, cut spending, and create jobs. I urge the President to take a long look at the unemployment report and agree to work with House Republicans to cut spending, eliminate burdensome regulations, and start getting Americans back to work.

[Share your thoughts](#)

## Ending Abuse of Judicial System

I was pleased to join seventeen other members of Congress in cosponsoring [H.R. 1996](#) , the Government Litigation Savings Act. This bill makes targeted reforms to the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA) in order to ensure that taxpayer dollars do not help fund environmental activists that abuse our judicial system through endless lawsuits. Forcing American taxpayers and Northern Californians to pay these frivolous litigation costs is a grave injustice to those who are already forced to cope with the consequences of environmental litigation – including overstocked forests prone to wildfire, high gas prices from the protest of domestic oil and gas drilling, and the delay of critical public safety infrastructure such as levees and road improvements – while also funding this activity with their tax dollars. The Government Savings Litigation Act will address this issue by requiring environmental groups to show a “direct and personal monetary interest” in a federal action to be eligible for payments. In doing so, this bill returns the EAJA to the original intent of Congress and protects taxpayers from subsidizing well-funded environmental groups that use rampant lawsuits to obstruct common sense policies.

[Share your thoughts](#)

Recent Past

## Time to Repeal 3 Percent Withholding is Now

I wanted to let you know that I [testified](#) at a Small Business Committee hearing recently in support of [legislation](#) I introduced to repeal the 3 percent withholding tax currently scheduled to take effect on January 1, 2013. This tax, also known as Section 511, will require 3 percent of all payments by federal, state, and local government agencies for goods and services to be withheld for income tax purposes. It would severely harm the cash flow for small businesses that do business with the government, while also imposing enormous costs on government agencies at all levels.



My legislation to permanently repeal it has gained significant bipartisan support and currently has 128 cosponsors. It also has the broad support of 130 organizations including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the American Farm Bureau, and the National Federation of Independent Businesses. You can view the whole list at <http://www.withholdingrelief.com/mem>

[bers-of-coalition/](#)

. After the hearing, I spoke at an event to raise awareness about the need for repeal and I delivered public remarks that you can read in full

[here](#)



[Share your thoughts](#)

**Rural Veterans Deserve Better Access to Care**

I wanted to inform you that I recently cosponsored [H.R. 575](#) , the HEALTHY Vets Act of 2011. This legislation would improve access to health care for veterans living in rural areas by requiring the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to contract with private physicians to provide medical services for such veterans on a case-by-case basis. By requiring the VA to take this action whenever cost-effective, H.R. 575 would help ensure that a larger number of veterans in rural communities have local access to primary care and other important services. As you may know firsthand, too many Northern Californian veterans currently have to travel long distances for their care at great time and expense. I will continue to work in Congress to reduce this hardship on local veterans.

[Share your thoughts](#)

Northern California News and Events

**Combating the Wildfire Threat with Commonsense Solutions**



I recently held an event regarding the [Catastrophic Wildfire Community Protection Act](#) , legislation I have introduced to combat the wildfire threat to communities in our area and across America. Living in Northern California, you know all too well the danger wildfires pose to our lives and property. For too long, frivolous lawsuits from fringe environmental activists have prevented the necessary thinning of our forests. It is essential that we liberate local fire prevention efforts by providing the people living in at-risk communities a greater role in protecting themselves. The Catastrophic Wildfire Community Protection Act would do exactly that by allowing critical forest thinning projects to go forward in a timely manner, and authorizing at-risk communities to implement the emergency action plans that they developed to reduce the threat of catastrophic fire. Click

[here](#)

to get more in-depth information on my legislation and

[here](#)

read my remarks.

[Share your thoughts](#)

## Groundbreaking at Yuba-Sutter Veterans Clinic



I wanted to share a positive development in regards to expanding health services for veterans in Northern California. I participated in the ground breaking of the Yuba-Sutter Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic. Located on 431 Plumas Boulevard in Yuba City, it will be operated by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and provide a broad range of health services. This clinic will be of great help to many North State veterans, sparing many the time and expense of driving long distances to receive primary medical care. Veterans will have better access to preventative care and those with chronic health problems will have easier follow-ups. I will monitor the construction of this facility, and I look forward to its grand opening, which should occur before the end of the year.

[Share your thoughts](#)

## Tax Relief for Northern California Farmers

Recently I introduced [H.R. 1747](#) , legislation to provide faster cost recovery under the tax code for equipment and machinery used on farms. Northern California farmers are already dealing with a struggling economy and skyrocketing energy prices – it’s critical that we have a tax code that makes things easier for them, not harder. Specifically, the bill would reduce the depreciation schedule for agricultural equipment and machinery from 7 years to 5 years. A five-year recovery period is consistent with the actual lifespan of modern farming equipment as well as the tax treatment of machinery used in other industries such as construction. Congress passed legislation in 2008 to provide for 5-year recovery of investments in farm equipment and machinery, but this provision expired at the end of 2009. My bill would reinstate it as a permanent rule. According to a study by the American Farm Bureau Federation, this bipartisan proposal, which does not add to our nation’s long-term deficit, would increase U.S. farm and ranch income by \$800 million in a typical year. I look forward to working toward passage of this important tax relief for American farmers.

[Share your thoughts](#)

## Memorial Day



I had the pleasure of attending the Sutter Memorial Day observance held at Sutter Ceremony. Our brave

[Share your thoughts](#)