



Office of Congressman Jeff Flake

News Release

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Congressman Flake Commends Budget Chairman Nussle for Including Earmark Moratorium in FY05 Budget Resolution

Earmarking Partially to Blame for Runaway Spending

Washington, D.C. - Arizona Congressman Jeff Flake, who represents the state's Sixth District, today commended House Budget Committee Chairman Jim Nussle for his commitment to controlling federal spending.

Chairman Nussle has announced his intention to include a one-year moratorium on earmarks, which are spending items slipped into appropriations bills without appropriate congressional oversight. Earmarked appropriations, oftentimes pork-barrel projects, have risen four-fold since Republicans took control of Congress.

"It's clear to everyone that congressional earmarks are out of control," said Flake. **"Not only do they lead to wasteful spending, but they lock Members who have requested earmarks into voting for bills that they'd otherwise oppose."**

"The explosion in earmarks under Republicans completely flies in the face of the principles our Party supposedly stands for."

Congressman Flake proposed a moratorium on earmarks in early February and has been working with other fiscal conservatives and conservative groups on a plan to institute a moratorium.

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