



Office of Congressman Jeff Flake

News Release

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Congressman Flake Urges Congress To Stop Using Fuzzy Math

Appropriators Cook the Books to Stay Under President's Budget Cap

Mesa, Arizona - Congressman Jeff Flake, who represents the state's Sixth District, today urged his colleagues to avoid using accounting gimmicks to create a spending bill that only appears to be under President Bush's budget limit.

The Senate passed an omnibus appropriations bill for fiscal year 2003 yesterday that used accounting tricks to add over \$15 billion more than President Bush requested.

"It amazes me that Congress criticizes corrupt businessmen for using accounting tricks to overstate their revenue, then turns around and uses accounting tricks to understate their spending," said Flake. **"Congressional appropriators are unequalled when it comes to creative accounting."**

"Let's pass a spending bill that stays under President Bush's budget cap without using fuzzy math."

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