

# News from Congressman Pat Toomey

Pennsylvania's 15<sup>th</sup> Congressional District

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## **Toomey Introduces Bill to Curb Wasteful Spending**

Washington, DC – Today, Rep. Pat Toomey (R-PA) introduced legislation that would strictly enforce Congressional spending levels for the next five years.

Toomey's bill, the Congressional Act to Prioritize Spending (CAPS), would force Congress to limit the growth of government through 2007, by enforcing the spending levels outlined in the House passed budget resolution.

"Protecting Social Security funds is a vital priority," Toomey said. "But, in order to do this, Congress simply must control spending. Squandering Social Security surpluses to make the federal government even bigger is fiscally irresponsible."

Currently, there is no mechanism to prevent Congress from violating statutory spending limits and spending Social Security surpluses on other government programs. The CAPS bill sets realistic limits on discretionary spending levels to ensure that government spending grows only at very modest rates.

"We are presently faced with a deficit spurred by many years of excessive, wasteful spending," Toomey said. "If we prioritize our spending, show fiscal restraint and adhere to the limits outlined in my bill, we will find ourselves back in surpluses soon," Toomey concluded.

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