

Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2007 6:21 PM

To: EMAILUPDATE-MI08@LS1.HOUSE.GOV

Subject: Legislative Email Update - Cracking Down on Wasteful Spending

I write today to update you on recent legislative activities in the United States Congress. I appreciate the opportunity to contact you.

Cracking Down on Wasteful Spending

This week, I co-sponsored a resolution to bring transparency and accountability to the earmark process in Congress. I believe transparency is essential in Congress, especially when it comes to the how precious taxpayer dollars are spent.

Protecting the public's tax dollars is a basic duty of all Members of Congress. During my time in Congress, I have worked tirelessly to help root out wasteful spending. This resolution is intended to change the way Congress does business by bringing spending into the open and putting accountability and transparency in place to protect against potential abuse of power and misuse of hard-earned taxpayer resources.

Minimum Wage Increase Signed into Law

Recently, I voted to increase the minimum wage and provide tax relief for small businesses so that they can invest in themselves and hire more workers.

Small businesses are the driving force in our economy. They hire more people and create more jobs than any sector - stimulating our economic engine nationwide. In Michigan, where we've already lost tens of thousands of jobs in a single state recession, efforts to help keep small businesses strong and viable are crucial.

I am pleased to report that the bill passed by Congress was signed into law by President Bush on May 25, 2007. This law gives job providers incentives to invest in themselves and their workers so they do not have to choose one or the other. It provides a balanced increase in the federal minimum wage to \$7.25 by 2009, as well as important small business tax relief.

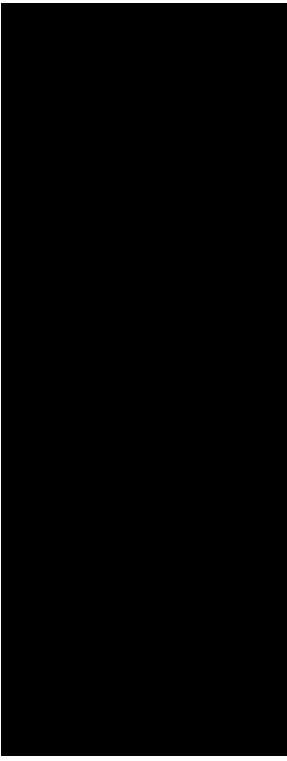
For more information on this issue, please click [here](#).

Innovation, Not Regulation, Will Improve Auto Fuel Economy

As Congress works to protect our environment and reduce America's dependence on foreign oil, it is important that we pay attention to the work being done by Michigan's automakers.

The good news for Michigan is our automotive experience and skill can be turned into new jobs for a revitalized auto industry. Michigan does more automotive research than the other 49 states combined, making our state the most logical place in the world for alternative fuel research, development and production.

However, in order to allow this innovation to grow, fuel economy standards must account for future technology. That is why I am aggressively pursuing strong, fair and equal fuel economy standards on all vehicles while still empowering our auto engineers, designers



and workers to make alternative fuel cars and trucks.

If you want to read more about my efforts, click [here](#) for an op-ed I wrote for the *Detroit News*.

For more information on alternative fuels, please click [here](#) to view my "Gas Price Resources" web page.

I appreciate your continued interest in the legislative activities of your U.S. Congress. As always, should you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

Mike Rogers
Member of
Congress

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