
CAPITOL CONNECTION

A Weekly Update of News and Views
For Opinion Shapers and Policy Makers

Congressman Gary G. Miller
42nd District, California



June 29, 2007

Amnesty Proposal Fails Again in Senate

The amnesty proposal under consideration this week in the Senate failed to clear an important procedural hurdle. In order to proceed to a vote on passage of this bill, which includes a pathway to citizenship for illegal aliens, members of the Senate needed to first agree to end debate. On Thursday, the motion to end debate fell far short of the required number of votes, effectively killing the bill. Congressman Miller applauds this latest development and extends his thanks to all the grassroots activists who helped the Senate amnesty proposal fail. He remains firmly committed to immigration reform that emphasizes border security first and does not reward those who have entered our country illegally.

House Rejects Across-the-Board Funding Cuts

Earlier this year, House Democrats forced through a budget that calls for \$22 billion in new spending paid for by one of the largest tax increases in American history. In response to this excessive spending proposal, fiscal conservatives including Congressman Miller have supported a series of across-the-board cuts to every appropriations bill considered by the House so far this year. As the House this week considered bills to dramatically increase spending for the Department of the Treasury, the Department of the Interior, and several independent agencies, Congressman Miller was proud to again support these amendments which together would have saved taxpayers billions of dollars. While each amendment was defeated, Congressman Miller will continue fighting to reduce unnecessary government spending.

Congressman Miller Offers Amendment to Protect Local Land Rights

In 2003, the National Park Service was authorized to survey the San Gabriel River and its tributaries, to determine if the area could be included in the National Park System. Congressman Miller believes the National Park Service reached beyond this area and extended the study into the 42nd District. Out of concern that the results of this study could be used to compromise the ability of local governments to decide what is best for their communities, several cities contacted him and the National Park Service in extreme opposition to the study. During consideration of the annual funding bill for the National Park Service, Congressman Miller offered an amendment to stop the study in Diamond Bar, La Habra, Industry, Chino Hills, and Rowland Heights. While an identical amendment was unanimously approved last year, this year the Democratic majority rejected the amendment. Despite this setback, Congressman Miller remains committed to preserving local land use management and will work to curb unnecessary federal involvement in our rapidly growing region.

Congressman Miller Passes Homeownership Resolution

The House on Monday unanimously passed a resolution authored by Congressman Miller recognizing June as National Homeownership Month. The resolution notes that today nearly seventy percent of American families are homeowners, a record number. During his time in Congress, Congressman Miller has consistently worked to ensure that more and more Americans can enter into and maintain homeownership. He remains deeply concerned that many qualified Americans who live and work in communities with high housing costs are not afforded the benefits of Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, and FHA mortgage products simply because the existing loan limits are insufficient. In response, he has championed language this year to increase the conforming loan limit for these crucial programs, thereby increasing the supply of affordable mortgage products for the people of Southern California. Over the coming months, Congressman Miller will continue working to cultivate an environment where more Americans can turn the dream of homeownership into reality.

Naval Academy Hosting MCAS Miramar F/A-18 Tour

Interested in the United States military academies? Local information officers for the United States Naval Academy are offering high school student leaders interested in the United States Naval Academy a tour of an active F/A-18 squadron stationed at MCAS Miramar in San Diego. Students will see an F/A-18 squadron up close and observe first-hand the latest military aviation technology. This is a great opportunity to find out about the United States Naval Academy and see directly what Naval Academy graduates do. The tour will be held on Friday, July 6 from 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. While the event is not open to the general public, students interested in attending or learning more about the United States military academies should contact Congressman Miller's office at (714) 257-1142.

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