

Castle Leads Moderate Efforts to Increase Funding for Critical Education, Health, Community Programs in Continuing Resolution -- January 29, 2007

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Delaware Congressman Mike Castle today joined with Reps. Dave Reichert (R-WA), Chris Shays (R-CT), and Charlie Dent (R-PA) in leading the Republican Moderate effort to boost funding for critical education, health and community programs in the Fiscal Year 2007 Continuing Resolution (CR). This builds on their efforts from last year when they secured an additional \$4.1 billion in Labor HHS Education Funding in the Committee-passed bill. The CR will be voted on this Wednesday.

Specifically in a letter to Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and Appropriations Committee Chairman David Obey, Castle and others are asking for at least 2 percent increase for these programs over the Fiscal Year 2006 enacted level. The letter is below and is still being circulated for co-signers.

January 29, 2007

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi

The Honorable David Obey

Speaker

Chairman

US House of Representatives

House Appropriations Committee

Washington, DC 20515

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Dear Speaker Pelosi:

As you develop the resolution to continue government funding for the remainder of fiscal year 2007, we strongly encourage increasing the appropriation for Labor, HHS, and Education programs at no less than a 2% over levels enacted for these programs in FY06.

Increasing these programs by no less than 2% will boost current efforts for health research, educational priorities like math and science, the Centers for Disease Control, after school care, vocational education, and the National Institutes of Health. In addition to the important health and education programs, other domestic priorities that should be adjusted for inflation include Byrne and COPS grants in Science, State, Justice, Commerce Approps; the Community Development Block Grant in Transportation, Treasury, HUD; and adequate funding to accommodate the President's Competitiveness

Initiative.

The majority of 109th Congress supported these increases to the Fiscal Year 2007 funding levels for the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education programs. We fully expect that no less than a 2% increase in additional funding will be included in any continuing resolution to adequately fund these important programs.

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