

AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY®

March 10, 2010

Dear Representative Jeff Flake,

On behalf of more than 975,000 Americans for Prosperity activists in all 50 states, including our 30 chapter and affiliate states, we are proud to join you in urging the House Republican Caucus to enact an earmark moratorium for fiscal year 2011.

Americans for Prosperity has long believed that pork barrel politics are one of the most damaging aspects of the federal government. Special deals, corrupt vote buying and *quid pro quo* legislation destroy our citizens' faith in their government, and rightly so.

In fact, we have just released a study that shows a clear link between lawmakers garnering earmarks and getting reelected. Politicians are literally buying themselves political office using our money. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like a copy of our results.

The American people are understandably fed up with out-of-control congressional earmarks, and the time has long since passed to do something about it. Both parties have been bad on this issue and both need to reform their behavior. However, Republicans have an opportunity to reclaim the mantle of fiscal conservatism they shirked during their time in power. Forgoing earmarks will not solve our fiscal problems, but they are an important symbol. A one-year moratorium will speak loudly to the American people that Congress understands their frustrations and is taking steps to remedy their concerns.

We recognize that you have long been a champion on this issue and we applaud you for reaching out to the rest of your caucus. We urge your colleagues to join you in supporting an earmark moratorium for fiscal year 2011.

Sincerely,



James Valvo
Government Affairs Manager
Americans for Prosperity

CC:
Republican Members of the U.S. House of Representatives

Americans for Prosperity (AFP) is a nationwide organization of citizen leaders committed to advancing every individual's right to economic freedom and opportunity. AFP believes reducing the size and scope of government is the best way to safeguard individual productivity and prosperity for all Americans. AFP educates and engages citizens in support of restraining state and federal government growth, and returning government to its constitutional limits. AFP has more than 975,000 members, including members in all 50 states, and 30 state chapters and affiliates. More than 60,000 Americans in all 50 states have made a financial investment in AFP or AFP Foundation. For more information, visit www.americansforprosperity.org