

Washington, DC -- Rep. Vern Buchanan (R-FL 13) voted last night against a congressional pay raise, saying until Congress gets spending under control it does not deserve a salary hike.

“Every family in America has to live within its means, why should the federal government be any different,” Buchanan said, noting the federal deficit is \$176 billion and the national debt is \$8.8 trillion. “Congress should not get a pay raise until it shows the discipline necessary to balance the budget and reduce the debt.”

The House voted 244-181 to approve a \$4,460 annual raise, bringing congressional salaries to \$170,000. Buchanan voted against the raise.