"No pay raise until Congress balances budget"

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Vern Buchanan (FL-13) reintroduced legislation today to prevent Members of Congress from getting pay raises until the federal budget is balanced.

"Congress should not get a pay raise until it shows the discipline necessary to balance the budget," said Buchanan, Florida's only member of the powerful Ways & Means Committee.

Buchanan noted that the 111th Congress added more to the national debt than the first 100 Congresses combined. As a whole, the current share of the debt is $44,866 for every man, woman, and child in the U.S.

"Every family in America has to live within its means, why should the federal government be any different?" said Buchanan. "Until Congress gets spending under control it doesn't deserve a salary hike."

Buchanan's Congressional pay raise bill comes on the heels of legislation he introduced earlier this week calling for a Constitutional Amendment to balance the federal budget.

Buchanan is a self-made businessman and a respected leader in Florida's business community. He chaired both the Florida Chamber of Commerce and the Sarasota Chamber of Commerce. He was also a member of the Board of the U.S. Chamber.