"Amendment holds both parties accountable"

WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Vern Buchanan, R-Fla., today praised the announcement by House Republican leaders that a balanced budget amendment will likely be considered by the full House during the week of July 25th. The amendment, which recently passed the House Judiciary Committee, is very similar to the balanced budget amendment offered by Buchanan earlier this year.

"A balanced budget amendment would hold both parties accountable," said Buchanan, citing that the federal budget has been balanced only five times in the past 50 years. "The time is now for Washington to make the tough choices necessary to balance the budget for taxpayers today and for future generations."

Like Buchanan's balanced budget amendment the version being brought to the House floor, sponsored by senior Republican Bob Goodlatte of Virginia, would require a supermajority of Congress to approve a tax increase on the American people.

"Washington's reckless pattern of borrowing and spending has put our country on a road to bankruptcy," said Buchanan. "49 out of 50 states, including Florida, have balanced budget requirements. It's imperative that Washington does the same."

Buchanan's first bill as a new member of Congress in 2007 was a balanced budget amendment.