



**Week of September 25th
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WASHINGTON SURF REPORT

Welcome to my first Washington Surf Report! I hope you will find this report to be a useful tool in keeping up with the activities of the United States House of Representatives. This report will be updated every week so that you can follow the issues that are important to you. I appreciate the opportunity to represent the 50th Congressional District of California.



**WE'RE CHANGING THE
CULTURE**

By: Brian Bilbray

Last week, the House of Representatives took the first step in changing the culture that has left so many Americans disillusioned with their government. With the public demanding reform, the House adopted rule changes to the practice of earmarking that will bring more transparency to the legislative and appropriations process. For the first time, earmarks will be put in the public light where everybody will be able to see how their tax dollars are being spent.

I am calling on Congress to adopt a two-year budget cycle, so that election-year politics wouldn't influence budget and appropriations decisions. I believe that decisions about the budget process should be made after elections, not before them. The American people believe their government is broken. It is up to us to repair it.

A two-year budget process would help create more oversight, accountability and transparency. The path to reform has only begun. We must have the will and commitment to restore the public's confidence.

Read the rest of the article that appeared in this week's *USA Today* by going to: <http://blogs.usatoday.com/oped/2006/09/>



Congressman Bilbray meets with members of the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network during their Celebration on the Hill 2006.



On the Floor

Week in Review — House Focuses on Border Security Legislation

- H.R. 6094, the Community Protection Act
- Allows for expedited removal of criminal aliens
- H.R. 6095, the Immigration Law Enforcement Act of 2006
- Reaffirms the authority of state and local law enforcement to enforce immigration laws
- H.R. 4830, the Border Tunnel Prevention Act of 2006
- Criminalizes the construction and financing of border tunnels
- H.R. 6061, the Secure Fence Act
- Strengthens operational control of our southern border and ports utilizing additional physical barriers, fencing and increased use of state-of-the-art technology
- Complete Floor Schedule available at: www.majoritywhip.gov/

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