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Herger**  
Congressman

**2nd District - California**



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## **Herger Lauds Passage of Private Property Rights Protection Act**

**(Washington, D.C.) - Congressman Herger (CA-02) today voted in favor of H.R. 4128, the Private Property Protection Act of 2005, which the House passed by a vote of 376 to 38.**

"The right to own private property is one of our nation's most cherished principles," Herger said. "Passage of this legislation is a critical step toward ensuring that government at every level will think twice before using eminent domain simply to collect more tax revenue."

This measure is in additional response to the Supreme Court's *Kelo v. City of New London* decision, which significantly expanded the government's ability to seize private property. Congressman Herger is a cosponsor of H.R. 4128 and several other measures that would limit the impact of *Kelo*, and also strongly supported a House-passed resolution expressing the House of Representatives' "grave disapproval" of the *Kelo* ruling. H.R. 4128 would deter states and localities from using eminent domain for economic development, and would prohibit the federal government from doing so.

Herger continued, "This bipartisan measure appropriately uses the congressional 'power of the purse' to discourage states and local governments from abusing their eminent domain power, and would help ensure that the *Kelo* decision does not have devastating effects on property owners in America.

The Private Property Protection Act would:

- Prohibit states or localities that receive federal economic development funds from using eminent domain for economic development
- Enable owners of private property to seek redress in court if this measure is violated
- Cut off federal economic development funds for two years to a state or locality that is found to be in violation of this measure
- Prohibit the federal government from using eminent domain for economic development

"The *Kelo* decision demonstrated the tremendous need for justices who respect our Constitution's limitations on government powers, including its protection of private property rights. I strongly urge the Senate to promptly pass this important legislation," concluded Herger.

**For more information, log on to <http://www.house.gov/herger> on the Internet!**