

Mahoney Named Blue Dog of the Week

(March 6th, 2007)

Washington, D.C. - Today the conservative Democratic Blue Dog Coalition recognized newly elected Florida Representative Tim Mahoney for his commitment to the continued success of America's small businesses by naming him "Blue Dog of the Week." Rep. Mahoney recently voted in favor of H.R. 976, the "Small Business Tax Relief Act of 2007," a bipartisan piece of legislation that includes \$1.3 billion in tax cuts to help small businesses expand and hire new workers.

Small businesses are the economic drivers of our economy, and in supporting the Small Business Tax Relief Act, Rep. Tim Mahoney has demonstrated that he is willing to work with members of Congress on both sides of the aisle to pass legislation that will encourage their continued success," said Rep. Mike Ross (D-AR), Blue Dog Co-Chair for Communications. "As a Blue Dog, Rep. Mahoney has already taken steps to restore fiscal discipline to our federal government, and he will continue to play a significant role as the Blue Dogs work together to address the nation's nearly \$9 trillion debt."

"I am honored to be recognized as Blue Dog of the Week. I look forward to continuing to work on behalf of Florida's 16th Congressional District to restore fiscal responsibility to Congress and make sure the federal budget reflects American priorities. The Blue Dog Coalition is committed to making sure Congress balances the budget, just like every Florida family does," said Congressman Mahoney.

Due to the efforts of Rep. Mahoney and his Blue Dog colleagues, the House rules package for the 110th Congress was passed in the first 24 hours of the new session and includes key principles of the Coalition's 12-point plan to end the nation's addiction to deficit spending. Specifically, the package requires pay-as-you-go budget discipline, known as "PAYGO," with no new deficit spending. This rule was in place when the nation had its first balanced budget in nearly 30 years from 1998 to 2001. The rules package also requires full transparency by ending the abuse of special interest earmarks.

The conservative Blue Dog Coalition was formed in 1995 with the goal of representing the center of the House of Representatives and appealing to the mainstream values of the American public. The Blue Dogs are dedicated to a core set of beliefs that transcend partisan politics, including a deep commitment to the financial stability and national security of the United States. Currently there are 44 members of the Blue Dog Coalition.

Rep. Mahoney is currently featured on the Blue Dog Coalition website, located at <http://www.house.gov/ross/BlueDogs/>.

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