



## Office of Representative Heath Shuler

Representing North Carolina's Eleventh Congressional District

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Contact: Andrew Whalen, Communications Director

office: (202) 225-6401 / cell: (202) 731-5116

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# Congressman Shuler Named “Blue Dog of the Week”

## *North Carolina Representative Recognized for Commitment to Fiscal Responsibility*

**Washington, D.C.** – The fiscally conservative Democratic Blue Dog Coalition today honored newly elected Democratic Rep. Heath Shuler by naming him the “Blue Dog of the Week.” Shuler was recognized for his commitment to restoring fiscal responsibility and accountability to government.

“Out of the box, Heath Shuler has been a leader in Congress to put our country back on a track to fiscal sanity,” said Rep. Mike Ross (D-AR), Blue Dog Co-Chair for Communications. The Blue Dog Coalition commends Heath for his leadership, hard work, and determination to restore fiscal discipline to the federal government and reduce the nearly \$9 trillion debt. We need members of Congress who are willing to work across the aisle to come up with viable solutions, and Heath Shuler has demonstrated that he is one of these members.”

“The American people are tired of Congress spending wastefully, borrowing recklessly, and needlessly risking the security of future generations,” said Rep. Shuler. “That’s why I am proud to be a member of the Blue Dog Caucus. We are committed to returning fiscal responsibility to our government and balancing the budget.”

Due to the efforts of Rep. Shuler and his Blue Dog colleagues, the House rules package for the 110<sup>th</sup> 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. Shuler is currently featured on the Blue Dog Coalition website, located at

<http://www.house.gov/ross/BlueDogs/bluedogs.shtml>.

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