



Office of Representative Heath Shuler

Representing North Carolina's Eleventh Congressional District

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Rep. Shuler Cuts Taxes for Over 66,000 Western North Carolina Families *Fix of AMT Helps Working Families and Grows the Economy*

Washington, D.C. – Representative Heath Shuler today voted to save thousands of families in Western North Carolina from paying higher taxes by fixing the looming crisis of the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT). Rep. Shuler joined a bipartisan coalition in supporting the Temporary Tax Relief Act, H.R. 3996.

The AMT was created to make sure multi-millionaires were paying their fair share and was never intended to hit middle-class families. In fact only 3,994 households in the 11th Congressional District were subject to the AMT in 2005. However, without the passage of the Temporary Tax Relief Act, it is estimated that over 66,000 households would have been subject to the AMT. Across the nation 23 million families would have faced higher taxes under the AMT without the Temporary Tax Relief Act.

The bill does not add to the national debt, as all tax savings for working families in the bill are paid for by closing unfair loopholes for hedge fund managers and other Wall Street executives.

“Today I joined with my colleagues in standing up for working families today against the Wall Street special interests,” said Rep. Shuler. “This bill begins restoring tax fairness for our families and ensures that everyone is paying their fair share.”

In addition to fixing the AMT, the Temporary Tax Relief Act also provides other tax relief measures for working families including: a deduction for property taxes paid by homeowners; expands the child tax credit; provides a college tuition tax deduction; provides teachers with a deduction for classroom expenses.

“Thousands of teachers across Western North Carolina spend money out of their own pocket to make certain that their students have the materials they need to learn. I am glad that this bill includes a tax deduction for these hardworking and selfless individuals,” said Rep. Shuler.

Additionally the Temporary Tax Relief Act provides thousands of American troops in combat with tax relief under the Earned Income Tax Credit.

“The brave men and women of our Armed Forces are risking their lives to defend our nation. Providing them with this tax relief is one small way we can thank them for their service.”

The Temporary Tax Relief Act also extends research and development tax credits to promote innovation and the creation of high-paying, high-tech jobs.

“This is sound tax policy for Main Street, not Wall Street,” Rep. Shuler concluded.

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