



## Office of Representative Heath Shuler

Representing North Carolina's Eleventh Congressional District

**For Immediate Release**

**February 25, 2009**

Contact: Andrew Whalen, Communications Director  
office: (202) 225-6401 / cell: (202) 731-5116

---

### **Rep. Shuler Joins Bipartisan Group to Make Strong Investments in America's Future**

*Washington, D.C.* – U.S. Representative Heath Shuler joined with a bipartisan majority in the House of Representatives to pass the Omnibus Appropriations bill, HR 1105.

The Omnibus Appropriations bill contains the nine appropriations bills for the 2009 Fiscal Year that were not signed into law last year and is necessary to fund the federal government for the remainder of the 2009 Fiscal Year.

“The investments being made through this Omnibus bill are critical to the future of both our nation and our local communities,” Rep. Shuler said. “Through this bill we are investing in renewable energy research and development to end our dependence on foreign oil. We are helping small- and medium-sized manufactures compete globally and keep jobs here. We are supporting local police and sheriff's departments through the COPS program. We are making important investments in our nation's infrastructure, our National Parks, and so much more.”

The Omnibus Appropriations bill also continued to bring additional transparency and oversight to earmarks, while also reducing the number. Earmarks now represent less than 1% of the entire budget.

“I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to bring a historic level of honesty, accountability, and transparency to our entire budget process,” Shuler continued. “I am hopeful that the entire appropriations process for the upcoming fiscal year can be achieved through regular order and with full sunlight.”

###