Congresswoman Musgrave votes against automatic pay raise

Representative opposes free pass on paycheck increases.

Washington, DC: Congresswoman Marilyn Musgrave voted to oppose an automatic pay increase for Members of Congress. As a fiscally conscience Representative, Musgrave opposed the measure that was tucked into the annual Fiscal Year 2006 Transportation and Treasury Appropriations Act.

"Congressional salaries are generous as is, and during the current time of budget constraints, it is incumbent that elected officials do for themselves what they ask others to do - cut back. The people of Colorado would agree passing permanent tax relief, bolstering national security, and restraining wasteful federal spending are greater concerns."

"What is most frustrating about these so-called cost of living increases is they are cloaked behind archaic legislative procedures, making it easy for Congressmen to support the raise with little criticism. Hardworking taxpayers deserve greater accountably from their elected officials. That is why I voted against this measure."

Congress is required by Article I, Section 6, of the Constitution to determine its own pay. Although Musgrave voted against this raise, Members of Congress are scheduled to receive a 1.9 percent increase in January 2006.