

Washington, DC - Congressman Charlie Gonzalez (TX-20) issued the following statement applauding the passage of H.R. 1, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, in the House by a vote of 244-188:

"The economic crisis we are facing is unlike anything we've experienced in generations. The need for swift, bold action could not be greater and the legislation we've passed today begins to answer that call."

"This bill strikes an appropriate balance between spending and cutting taxes. By cutting taxes for 95% of working American families and providing tax incentives for small businesses we are accomplishing two important goals - we are putting more money in the pockets of consumers and encouraging growth that will create jobs."

"At the same time, this legislation makes bold investments in infrastructure, new energy technologies, education, and healthcare. Each will promote long term economic growth and savings that will ensure our economy doesn't fall back into a recession in the future."

"Most importantly, this bill was crafted with a strong commitment to accountability and transparency. The public can rest assured that there will be strict oversight over their tax dollars that will be used to get our economy back on track."

"This comprehensive bill will begin to address the most serious economic crisis our country has seen since the Great Depression. Today only marks the beginning, however; recovery will not take place overnight and much more needs to be done to get our economy back on track. But we have in fact laid a foundation for short-term economic recovery and long-term prosperity, and I urge the Senate to take up this bill with the sense of urgency that it requires."

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