



Media Release

Monroe County Democratic Caucus

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Democrats Offer Strong Support for Draft Stimulus Bill

Rochester, New York –January 16, 2009. In response to yesterday’s release of draft stimulus legislation by the U.S. House of Representatives, the Democratic Leader of the Monroe County Legislature, Harry Bronson (D-Rochester, Brighton & Henrietta) offers the following statement on behalf of the Democratic Caucus.

“The legislation unveiled yesterday is an extremely positive start to the congressional deliberations on the stimulus bill. With our nation’s economy in turmoil, we wholeheartedly agree with President-Elect Obama that it is imperative for the Federal Government to take swift action to address the challenges our working families are facing.”

“There are many elements of this draft legislation for which we are proud to offer support. However, there is one item that we feel absolutely must be contained in the final legislation: increased funding for child care programs. Thankfully the legislation put forth yesterday contains an additional \$2 billion towards the Child Care Block Grant program, a portion of which we desperately need right here in Monroe County due to the County Executive’s recent cuts to this critical program.”

“Also included in this promising draft legislation is an additional \$87 billion for Medicaid, \$90 billion for transportation related projects and \$80 million to ensure enforcement of worker protection laws as the new infrastructure projects are carried out. Each of these measures will help ease the financial burden on our State and Local Governments, as well as the working families who will be protected by these additional worker protection enforcement efforts. We are proud to support this legislation and, although it will likely change when finally adopted, we feel this is a very promising start.

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