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Portman Applauds Bipartisan Approval of Legislative Line Item Veto

WASHINGTON -- Today, the House Budget Committee approved H.R. 4890, the Legislative Line Item Veto Act of 2006, by a vote of 24-9. OMB Director Rob Portman issued the following statement:

“I applaud Chairman Jim Nussle and the House Budget Committee for taking action today on the legislative line item veto. And I appreciate the hard work of Rep. Paul Ryan and others to generate bipartisan support for this important initiative.

“I strongly urge Members on both sides of the aisle to support the legislative line item veto. It is a needed tool to eliminate wasteful spending and bring transparency to the budget process, while carefully preserving the role of the legislative branch in spending decisions.

Background: In 1996, Congress – on a bipartisan basis – gave President Clinton a line item veto. Of those that serve in Congress today, 131 House Members and 43 Senators voted for the measure. Furthermore, 43 Governors currently have a line item veto.

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