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**Administration Supports Legislative Line Item Veto Amendment to Senate Bill**

**WASHINGTON** – Today, OMB Director Rob Portman announced the Administration’s support for the “Second Look at Wasteful Spending” amendment to S. 1 – *The Legislative Transparency and Accountability Act of 2007*. The amendment’s author is Senator Judd Gregg (NH), the ranking member of the Senate Budget Committee.

“The Administration strongly supports Senator Gregg’s legislative line item veto amendment – an initiative that is consistent with the President’s goals.

“The legislative line item veto is a powerful tool that will help eliminate wasteful spending and strengthen transparency, while preserving the role of the legislative branch.

“As we work to reduce the budget deficit and put the Federal budget on a path to balance by 2012, measures such as the legislative line item veto will help us better constrain spending. We strongly urge Senators of both parties to support this common-sense provision that will help the executive and legislative branches work together to eliminate unjustified spending provisions.

“In addition, we would strongly encourage lawmakers to support other options presented by the President to reduce wasteful spending and maintain budget discipline, including reforms to the earmarking process that will improve transparency, accountability and work to cut the number and amount of earmarks in half.”

**Background Note:** In 1996, President Clinton was given a line item veto by Congress on a bipartisan basis. Currently, 43 Governors have line item veto authority.

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