



# NEWS RELEASE

**Congressman Charlie Norwood, 9<sup>th</sup> District, Georgia**

CONTACT: DUKE HIPPI

PHONE (202) 225-4101

FAX (202) 226-0776

Duke.Hipp@mail.house.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 29, 2004

## **Norwood Expresses Dismay over Court's Ruling to Protect Pornographers Preying on Children**

(Washington, DC) – U.S. Representative Charlie Norwood (GA-09) today expressed his disappointment in the Supreme Court's decision to block the Child Online Protection Act from taking effect. Originally passed by Congress in 1998 and signed by then-President Clinton (and strongly supported by President Bush today), the Child Online Protection Act has been stalled from taking law thanks largely to the efforts of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU).

“The Supreme Court let our children down today,” said Norwood. “While the Court is so concerned with the civil liberties of these garbage peddlers on the internet, someone needs to ask: ‘What about the civil liberties of the small children being subjected to smut and preyed upon by these pornographers?’ The Supreme Court got it wrong today. The Child Online Protection Act is a good bill and needs to become the law of the land to put the interests of our kids before those of purveyors of filth on the internet.”

In their 5-4 decision, the Supreme Court concurred with a lower court decision in not allowing the law to take effect over concerns that it would violate the First Amendment.

-30-