CONGRESSMAN BOB BEAUPREZ
COLORADO – 7TH DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

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Beauprez Combats Government Waste
New Working Group will root out waste, fraud and abuse in the federal government

Washington, DC – Congressman Bob Beauprez (CO-7), along with several other members of the 108th Congress' freshmen class, announced the formation of the Washington Waste Watchers: A Working Group to Combat Government Waste, Fraud and Abuse at a press conference today on Capitol Hill.

"Everyone knows that government needs to be more efficient, and we hope to make gains there," Beauprez said. "However, unfortunately there is often evidence of abuse and even wrong-doing, and we must bring that to light wherever possible."

In highlighting the ghastly amounts of wasted tax dollars, the group hopes to change the culture of waste, fraud and abuse in the federal government and offer legislative solutions to the problem.

"Coming from a business background, I'm familiar with the process of seeking out ways to cut out inefficiencies," Beauprez continued. "I look forward to applying that experience to the processes of the federal government."

On June 18, 2003, David Walker, Comptroller General of the General Accounting Office (GAO), testified before the House Budget Committee on various examples of waste, fraud, abuse and mismanagement in the federal government.

Among the examples cited in his testimony were:

- Agency improper payments totaling more than $20 billion for both fiscal years 2001 and 2002
- Medicare contractors improperly paid claims worth $12.3 billion in fiscal year 2002 alone.
- At HUD, GAO found improper purchases totaling about $1 million where HUD employees either split, or appeared to have split, purchases into multiple transactions to circumvent cardholder limits.
- In one case, HUD paid $227,500 to have 15,000 square feet of concrete replaced; however, we determined that only about one-third of the work HUD paid for was actually performed.

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