



COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

DAVE OBEY (D-WI), CHAIRMAN

For Immediate Release
Monday, April 27th, 2009

Contact: Kirstin Brost
202-225-2771

Obey Statement on Pandemic Funding

WASHINGTON – Dave Obey (D-WI), Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, released the following statement on pandemic flu funding.

“We have been trying to get adequate funding to prepare the nation for a pandemic outbreak since 2005. We tried again as recently as January in the economic recovery package. Whether or not this influenza strain turns out to have pandemic potential, sooner or later some strain will.”

“We are not prepared today. Let’s hope we don’t need to be. Because we need to become prepared as soon as possible, I intend to again request additional funds in the upcoming supplemental.”

Obey included \$420 million for pandemic flu preparedness in the House version of the economic recovery package in January, but it was stripped out after a number of Senators objected to the funds.

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