

January 28, 2009

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) -- U.S. Congressman Jason Altmire (PA-04) today voted for an economic recovery package that will cut taxes for hard-working American families and small businesses, create more than three million jobs, and help put our economy back on track. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan (H.R. 1) passed by a vote of 244-188.

**“Economists from across the political spectrum agree that the fastest way to revive our economy is to put in place a robust, targeted and transparent economic recovery package that can create millions of new jobs,” Altmire said. “Western Pennsylvania families will directly benefit from this legislation’s tax cuts and the funding it provides to repair our roads and bridges and modernize our schools. This economic recovery package is the path we need to take to pull our nation out of this recession.”**

Western Pennsylvania families will benefit from this legislation in several ways:

- Hard-working Pennsylvania families will get an immediate tax cut of \$500 for individuals and \$1000 for married couples.
- Small businesses and manufacturers will receive tax relief through extended small business expensing and an increase in the amount businesses can write off their taxes due to losses incurred over the last year.
- Pennsylvania will receive \$1.5 billion to repair its highways and bridges and improve mass transit.
- Schools serving children in Congressman Altmire’s district will receive nearly \$60 million, which will help them repair, renovate, and modernize their facilities.

This economic recovery package also has unprecedented levels of accountability, oversight, and transparency, including a dedicated website, [recovery.gov](http://recovery.gov), which will allow citizens to track every penny spent and hold federal, state, and local officials accountable for performance.

To watch a video of Congressman Altmire’s comments on the House Floor about the American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan, please click [here](#) .