

**WASHINGTON, DC –** Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD) released the following statement today after Citizens Against Government Waste (CAGW) released a report on earmark reforms under the Democratic Congress: “Today, the conservative group Citizens Against Government Waste reported on the earmark reforms undertaken by Congress since the Democrats won the majority in 2006. The report was highly positive, noting a 15.5 percent decrease in the cost of earmarks from fiscal year 2009, progress that the group credits to ‘greater transparency’ and ‘reforms that were adopted since Democrats took over Congress in 2006.’

“In all, since taking the majority, Democrats have cut the cost of earmarks by 50 percent, publicly identified Members of Congress requesting earmarks, and ended earmarks for for-profit companies. Each party’s commitment to fiscal discipline and transparency is best judged by the record: while Democrats have implemented real reforms, Republicans never took action to reduce earmarks or make the earmark process more transparent over their 12 years in power.”

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