Gonzalez Statement on the Seniors Protection Act

Washington, DC – Congressman Charles Gonzalez (TX – 20) issued the following statement today after House Republicans refused to support the Seniors Protection Act:

"Today, House Republicans blocked the passage of the Seniors Protection Act, which would have provided a $250 one-time payment to help seniors cover rising costs of health care, prescription drugs, and other necessities," said Congressman Gonzalez. "Our troubled economy is leaving our seniors in a financial pinch, especially those who rely on Social Security benefits as their main source of income. Republicans chose to ignore the fact that this aid was fiscally responsible and denied them this much needed boost."

Last year, Congressman Gonzalez introduced the Consumer Price Index for Elderly Consumers Act (HR 2429), which aims to create a separate Consumer Price Index calculation for elderly consumers (CPI-E) and would base the annual Social Security COLA on the CPI-E rather than the CPI-W. This will allow the Federal government to more accurately base COLAs on the actual living costs the typical senior must pay.

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