



COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

DAVID R. OBEY, CHAIRMAN

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OBEY: GDP GROWTH A WELCOME TURN IN THE ROAD

"If we are interested in achieving sustained job growth, we need to do more to put people back to work"

WASHINGTON – Congressman Dave Obey (D-WI), Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, made the following statement after the announcement that GDP rose 3.5% in the third quarter of 2009:

“This is a welcome turn of events. The economy has been in recession for over a year and a half and the impact on jobs has been devastating. After months of economic shrinkage, we have now had a welcome turn in the road. The economic stimulus package has played a major role in bringing that about. But it was just a short term injection of purchasing power into the economy and will have run its course over the next year.

“Unemployment can’t go down unless there is sustained economic growth. But I see little evidence that the private economy is strong enough, without further government action, to sustain this welcome news. That’s why, if we are interested in achieving sustained job growth, we need to do more to put people back to work.”

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