

I voted Yes on H.R. 4053, the Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Improvement Act.

H.R. 4053 would require the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to create a uniform technique for estimating improper payments, identify federal programs at high risk, and report on actions for reducing such improper payments. Chiefly, the bill calls for a "Do Not Pay Initiative" to require all agencies to take certain actions for prepayment and contract award screening before making payments, and directs OMB to establish a plan for curbing improper payments to deceased Social Security recipients.

This legislation is in part a response to the 2010 Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Act which revealed an estimated \$115.3 billion in improper payments in Fiscal Year 2011, as well as concerns over health care programs with high susceptibility to improper payments.

I supported this bill because it would help crack down on improper federal payments which we know range in the billions of dollars. At a time when our deficit is still far too high, taxpayers need better assurances that the government is doing all it can to stop improper payments.

The bill was approved by a vote of 402 – 0.