

Nunes votes to keep Internet tax-free

Rep. Devin Nunes voted for a consumer-friendly, high-tech legislative plan that will extend the tax-free status of Internet e-commerce.

The Internet Tax Nondiscrimination Act was approved in the House of Representatives by a unanimous vote.

"The Internet is opening doors for people that no one ever thought possible. We want to encourage

Americans to go online and continue exploring this powerful tool," said Mr. Nunes, a co-sponsor of the bill. "The House approved a plan that

strengthens this vital component of our growing economy."

"Those who do not have access to the Internet shouldn't have to face another barrier in the form of a tax to prevent them from getting onto the information superhighway. Removing the Internet tax helps eliminate this 'digital divide' and help countless Americans log on."

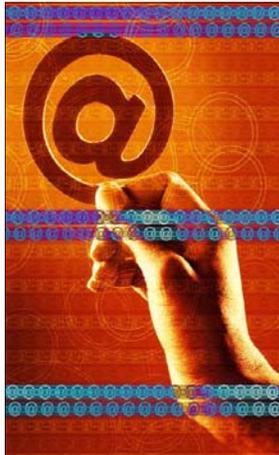
The Internet Tax Nondiscrimination Act will:

Increase investment in new IT developments. Despite the economic slowdown, IT industries have

continued to expand investment. Keeping e-commerce tax-free will continue spurring this investment.

Accelerate e-commerce sales. In 2000, Internet sales totaled \$28 billion. By 2001, this number had climbed to over \$35 billion. In the third-quarter of 2002 alone, Internet sales reached more than \$10 billion. Slapping a tax on these sales will only inhibit future growth.

Encourage more Americans to go online. Internet access is more affordable without taxes. Keeping the Internet tax-free will encourage an increasingly diverse online population of Internet users.



Quick Facts

In September, Rep. Nunes helped 39 constituents overcome problems with government agencies. For the year, the Congressman has directly solved issues for 202 constituents and is currently assisting 354 others.

Nunes calls for emergency funds for K Street

Rep. Devin Nunes sent a letter to the U.S. Department of Commerce, seeking emergency assistance to deal with the K Street off-ramp closure.

Mr. Nunes laid out the situation in a letter to Assistant Secretary for Economic Development Dr. David Sampson.

"The purpose of this letter is to inform [the Economic Development Administration] EDA of the serious economic damage that will be associated with this ramp closure, unless mitigating work can be conducted as quickly as possible," he said in the letter. "Unfortunately, local government officials are unable to meet the financial burdens associated with addressing this problem and the State of California has expressed serious funding concerns."

Mr. Nunes hopes to secure an emergency economic development grant to help pay for costs associated with constructing an alternative route flowing into the city's industrial area.

"The majority of the city's industrial park is located in this area and easy access to SR 99 is vital to their long-term survival-- not to mention serious traffic safety concerns," said Mr. Nunes, a member of the House Committee on Agriculture.

"The ramp closure will likely have serious and nega-

tive consequences for the World Ag Expo, the largest farm equipment show in the world, which is held at the International Agri-Center. With the annual farm equipment show in February, the need to address both the short and long-term consequences of the K street ramp closure is urgent. People from throughout the world travel to the City of Tulare for this event and its importance to the local economy cannot be overstated."

