



Congressman Albert R. Wynn

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: November 8, 2007

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Chairman Wynn on Biomonitoring Report Results *Increasing Awareness About Toxic Chemicals in Our Bodies*

Washington, D.C. – Chairman of the Subcommittee on Environment and Hazardous Materials, Congressman Albert R. Wynn (D-MD) issued the following statement in response to learning the results of a national biomonitoring project conducted in the spring of 2007. Thirty-five diverse people from seven states participated in this project, which was the broadest non-governmental project of its kind conducted by various public interest groups across the nation. The toxic chemical levels were measured in the bodies of average Americans.

Wynn said, “**Though we’ve known that the CDC has had capabilities to measure toxic chemical levels in the human body, the results of this report are still alarming. This study’s results detailing different individual people’s toxic levels, despite their best efforts to shield themselves from harm, was unnerving. Simply put – this is problematic.**

“**This report provides further evidence that broadly, our chemical policies are not working. It makes more sense to monitor, and thus, prevent toxins from penetrating our bodies, rather than dealing with the disastrous consequences after the fact. Especially if technologies like this are available, I see no reason why we should not take advantage of them to save the money and effort involved with dealing with this on the back end.**

“**We have seen significant changes in the scientific community. For instance, we now know that children are especially vulnerable to toxic chemicals, even at extremely low doses. Further, these effects in children can be cumulative as they grow up. However, these sorts of relatively recent observations are not reflected in the federal laws, supporting the need to make serious revisions to our chemical policies.**

“**As Chairman of the subcommittee with jurisdiction over many of these issues, I am committed to working towards ensuring the public is protected from harmful chemicals.”**

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