

**Washington, D.C.** - US Rep. David Price (NC-04) has issued the following statement in response to tonight's State of the Union Address:

"Tonight, I hoped to hear honesty from the President: a straightforward account of the situation in Iraq, a real plan to balance the budget, and a realistic projection of his Social Security plan. I am disappointed on all three counts.

"This President has yet to own up to his mistakes in Iraq: the mistakes that drove him to invade, the mistakes that he made in post-war planning, and the mistakes he continues to make in downplaying the role of insurgents and the threats our troops face.

"This President is not being straightforward about the impact of his Social Security privatization plan on the average worker. Working Americans will end up with less money under his plan, not more. And for many, the cuts will be draconian.

"Finally, this President is deluded if he thinks he can balance the budget while giving tax breaks to millionaires, fighting a war, and tacking a costly Social Security privatization plan on top of that. His plan adds \$2 trillion to the national debt, making the 'voodoo economics' of the 80s seem like sound fiscal policy. His fiscal recklessness will ultimately drive interest rates through the roof, affecting the lives of every North Carolinian.

"It's high time the President levels with the American people. All is not as he would have you believe tonight. I fear we will suffer the consequences of his policies for generations to come."