

Washington, DC – Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D-Ore.), Chair of the Public Broadcasting Caucus and a member of the Budget Committee, confronted OMB Director Rob Portman on the administration's FY08 budget proposal to cut \$114 million from the Corporation of Public Broadcasting.

“The administration wants to cut 25% from public broadcasting,” said Congressman Blumenauer. “Last Congress, we made clear when we restored funding with strong bipartisan support that this is an essential public service. I had hoped the administration would have gotten the message. These cuts remain unacceptable, and I am confident the 110th Congress, under new Democratic leadership, will prioritize funding for 2008.”

Congressman Blumenauer, an original founder of the Public Broadcasting Caucus, is working with other Representatives on both sides of the aisle to secure funding for public broadcasting. In 2005 he was awarded for his leadership and dedication to public broadcasting with the Public Radio Leadership Award.