

Blumenauer Heads to Southeast Asia to Survey Damage

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Washington DC -- Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D-Ore.), a member of the House International Relations Committee, is traveling to Southeast Asia with a congressional delegation to survey damage from last month's devastating tsunami and earthquake and explore how the United States can best help in the immediate relief efforts as well as long term reconstruction. He plans to visit with survivors, international aid workers and government officials in India, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Indonesia from January 6th through the 14th.

Blumenauer hopes to bring back an understanding of the scope of the problems facing survivors and relief workers to share with his colleagues in Congress. The 109th Congress convened this week in Washington, DC and aid to Southeast Asian communities is sure to be one of the most pressing topics the new Congress will deal with in the coming months.

Blumenauer plans to post his observations and views on the disaster on his website throughout his trip at <http://blumenauer.house.gov>. He invites Oregonians to follow his trip and learn more about the situation on the ground in Southeast Asia.