

Palm Harbor, FL (September 1, 2011) – Rep. Gus Bilirakis (FL-09) announced today that he will host a federal budget forum and workshop on September 6, 2011.

The free workshop will be conducted in cooperation with the Concord Coalition, a national, non-partisan grassroots organization that has developed a program to foster understanding of the federal budget process. Attendees get to select which policies they would like to implement to reduce our deficits and improve our long-term fiscal outlook and economic future.

"This event will give local taxpayers an inside look at the budget and let them use their spending priorities to create a model federal budget," Bilirakis said.

The workshop, titled Principles & Priorities, teaches participants about the federal budget and provides realistic insight into how some of the policy proposals in today's news would affect the nation's bottom line and the constituents of the 9th district.

Participants will be able to review current spending priorities, suggest principles for the future, and then apply these principles by selecting from several dozen priorities being discussed in Washington. They will then work in small groups to recommend a package of policies to put America on a sound budgetary foundation for the next several years. The workshop concludes with a wrap-up discussion of the budget results and the lessons learned from the exercise.

"Given our alarming deficits and debt, Washington must address the nation's priorities," Bilirakis said. "We must build a solid foundation for economic growth, and that begins with improving our fiscal situation."

WHAT: Principles and Priorities Budget Workshop

WHEN: Tuesday, September 6, 6-7:30 p.m.

WHERE: East Lake High School, 1300 Silver Eagle Drive, Tarpon Springs, FL

WHY: Better understanding of the federal budget, causes of deficits

The event is free and open to the public. To RSVP, call (727) 773-2871 or email FL09RSVP@mail.house.gov