

Contact: Matt Lloyd

### PENCE ANNOUNCES SUPPORT FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING CUTS

**Washington, Jun 23, 2005** - Congressman Mike Pence took to the House floor today to oppose the Obey Amendment that would restore full funding for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting as a part of the Labor/HHS Appropriations bill. Pence expressed support for budget cuts that would amount to a 4% reduction in the overall budget of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Excerpts from his remarks are as follows:

“The stakes are high: \$7.7 trillion is the current national debt. According to CBO, our fiscal 2004 national deficit number was \$413 billion. In order to reduce discretionary spending, this legislation eliminates 57 programs and asks many programs to accept up to a 50% cut.

“Asking the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, that receives only 15% of its funding from the federal government, to accept what amounts to a 22% reduction as we attempt to put our fiscal house in order is reasonable and responsible and precisely that which the American people elect Republican majorities to do.

“We have no higher stewardship, no higher calling than to come onto this floor and into this chamber and make the tough decisions. The Corporation for Public Broadcasting receives 85% of its funding from sources beyond the federal government. In the context of its overall budget we’re simply asking them to do with 4% less. I rise in opposition to the amendment. I stand in strong, conservative support of Chairman Regula and his desire to make the tough decisions and put our fiscal house in order.”

###