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Encourages Individuals and Families to utilize Tax Payer Assistance Sites

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Washington, DC - As the 2005 tax season approaches, Congresswoman Matsui encouraged qualifying low income families to claim the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), which could not only decrease the family's tax liability, but could also translate into a refund check. "It is far too common for millions of dollars worth of Earned Income Tax Credits to remain unclaimed in Sacramento. This means Sacramentans are likely paying too much in taxes, or worse yet they are also losing out on a possible refund check," stated Congresswoman Matsui., "I encourage all hard working families that qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit to consider utilizing one of the many taxpayer assistance sites administered by the IRS and their community partners. I am pleased that so many community organizations are working together in order to help eligible families claim this tax credit." One such collaborative community effort involves the City of Sacramento, Sacramento County and a team of AmeriCorps volunteers. For the second year in a row, AmeriCorps volunteers will process tax returns of qualifying low income individuals and families at the Samuel Pannell Meadowview Community Center at 2450 Meadowview Road. Taxpayers are encouraged to call InfoLine Sacramento at 498-1000 for further information. The EITC was made permanent by Congress in 1978 and is one of the largest and most effective anti-poverty programs in the county. For the 2005 tax year, the maximum credit for qualifying families with two or more children is \$4,400 and the maximum credit for families with one qualifying child is over \$2,500. This year's credits are an increase over those from the 2004 tax year. ###