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DEMOCRATS WIN VOTE ON MEASURE TO PROTECT OVERTIME PAY FOR MILLIONS OF AMERICANS

WASHINGTON, D.C.- The House today approved a Democratic amendment to block new rules backed by President Bush and the Republican Leadership from being implemented that would have disqualified six million Americans from overtime pay protection. The rule change to disqualify many workers overtime pay took effect on August 23. Larson backed the Democratic measure offered by Reps. David Obey (D-WI) and George Miller (D-CA), to stop the new rules from being implemented by the Department of Labor and restore overtime protections to workers. The amendment previously passed the House and Senate in last year's appropriations bill for the Labor Department appropriations bill, however the Republican Leadership removed it from the final omnibus appropriations bill. Today, the Democratic amendment passed by vote of 223-193, with 21 Republicans joining every Democrat present in support of the bill.