

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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STATEMENT of JUAN LAFONTA ON FEDERAL RULING IN FAVOR OF THE
RESIDENTS OF THE NINTH WARD IN NEW ORLEANS AND ST. BERNARD PARISH
&
IN RESPONSE TO THE MEDICARE PHYSICIANS PAYMENT REFORM ACT

On the Mississippi River Gulf-Outlet Ruling:

The November 18, 2009 ruling by Judge Stanwood Duval Jr. in New Orleans that the Army Corps of Engineers' negligence led directly to the flooding of the Ninth Ward and St. Bernard Parish after Hurricane Katrina is an emotional victory for the people of New Orleans. It is also a stark reminder that there is still work to be done to rebuild our city. Leadership in Congress, especially the Representative from New Orleans, must work to pass a regional settlement that will provide funds for all the people of New Orleans to help rebuild our city.

On the Medicare Physician Payment Reform Act:

Yesterday, Congressman Cao voted AGAINST the Medicare Physician Payment Reform Act which would ensure a fair rate of pay for medical doctors who serve Medicare patients and allow seniors and people with disabilities to receive care from their current medical care providers.

Cao's careless vote against the Medicare Physician Payment Reform Act would cut Medicare coverage at a time when the people of New Orleans need affordable and accessible health care most. Again, we see Cao putting the needs of the 2nd District aside to join his Republican Party. In Congress, I will represent the needs of the people of the district, that includes supporting initiatives which make healthcare more affordable and accessible.