

US Official News Source: States News Service. Feb. 15, 2011:

Senator STEVEN BIEDA ENCOURAGES RESIDENTS TO SIGN UP

FOR HIS E-NEWSLETTER Bieda's electronic updates will help keep Macomb County residents informed on his efforts to create jobs and fight for them in Lansing Sign up by visiting his website at <http://www.senate.mi.gov/dem/bieda/join.php> Sen. Bieda's E-Newsletter will provide 9th District residents with information on legislation the Senator has introduced or voted on, issues he is working on as the Minority Vice Chair of the Michigan Senate Judiciary, Finance and Redistricting Committees as well as a member of the Energy and Technology and Insurance Committees, updates on activities and events in Macomb County, and other news of interest to local residents. Source Citation " States News Service 15 Feb. 2011. Infotrac Newsstand.

The Star Jan. 24, 2011

Kia Optima SX: If Korea can do this, watch out for China

By Warren Brown DETROIT The global automobile industry has two three-letter threats One is Kia, the other is BYD. Kia poses an immediate threat. BYD, a China-based company aspiring to produce the world's most efficient and affordable electric cars, threatens to dominate the industry's future. Kia has become an impressive rival to other companies. The Optima sedan is poised to take market share from every other manufacturer selling midsize family cars in America, In the 2011 Kia Optima, you get more and it offers more standard equipment. **China-based BYD** has spent millions on elaborate displays at the Detroit show in the past four years, but it has yet to offer one car in the United States. **But it will offer all-electric and hybrid electric vehicles powered by the world's most advanced batteries**, Bottom line: Times are changing. Source Star 24 Jan. 2011. Infotrac Newsstand.

USA Today Nov 14 2011

No time to raise taxes

byline Jim Jordan **After an unprecedented spending binge, apologists for big government once again want to raise taxes** to reduce the deficit. We've seen this before. In 1990, Republicans agreed to what liberals call a "balanced" deal -- for every \$1 in tax increases, Congress would cut \$2 of spending. But when the dust settled, **taxes and spending both went up**. The real cause of our debt problem is too much wasteful spending. Washington has an alphabet soup of bureaucracies that duplicate each others' work, often with dubious results: 47 job training programs and more than 100 for surface

transportation -- all funded with your tax dollars. Is it any wonder we've run \$1 trillion deficits the past three years and have a \$15 trillion national debt? Taxes should be fair. Source USA Today 14 Nov. 2011. Infotrac

Christian Science Monitor

Dec 17, 2010. byline Gail Russell Chaddock

With big spending bill's demise, is 'earmark' new dirty word on Hill?

There was no last hurrah for **earmarks** - known to supporters as "congressionally mandated spending," and to critics as "**pork-barrel**" spending - as Senate majority leader Harry Reid on Thursday backed off plans to ram an earmark-laden spending bill through the Senate, before a House ban on earmarks takes effect. **Earmarks accounted for about \$8.6 billion of the proposed \$1.1 trillion omnibus for fiscal year 2011**, according to Citizens Against Government Waste, a watchdog group. Public outcries over millions for earmarks such as the so-called "bridge to nowhere" in Alaska have soured many voters and, increasingly, politicians on the practice. Moreover, new rules adopted by the current Congress require members to disclose earmarks they are requesting - a window that has made it much easier for watchdog groups to track such projects than in previous years. Within hours of the release of proposed omnibus bill this week, Citizens Against Government Waste and Taxpayers for Common Sense produced reports identifying **more than 6,000** earmarks and their sponsors. In 2006, the last year Republicans controlled the House, Congress hit a high for earmark spending, at \$29 billion. **In 2011 there was a \$1.1 trillion 'omnibus' spending boondoggle**

Christian Science Monitor 17 Dec. 2010. Infotrac