January 19, 2011

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) spoke this morning on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives against today's efforts by the Republican majority to repeal health care reform. The text of Congressman McNerney's remarks is below and video is available to watch here .

"Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the health care law and in opposition to its repeal. The health care reform, which was signed into law last year, is clearly not perfect and could be improved. However, the law as enacted will have significant benefits to millions of American citizens, to businesses, to local governments, and to the country as a whole.

"The benefits to individuals in need of health care with pre-existing conditions, to seniors, to young adults under 26 years of age and many others are well known and will be missed if the law is repealed. But most significantly, the law will drive down the cost of health care by encouraging and incentivizing quality care and good outcomes in health care treatments instead of encouraging potentially unnecessary procedures. It rewards quality rather than quantity of health care. This will ultimately reduce the cost, both public and private, of health care in this country.

"Because of these reasons, I strongly oppose repeal of health care reform."