

PHOENIX, Ariz. - U.S. Rep. Ed Pastor, D-Ariz., was the fourth lowest spender among all members of the U.S. House of Representatives in 2005 when it came to his office budget, according to a report released by the National Taxpayers Union.

Pastor, who was the third lowest spender in the House in 2004, maintained his frugal disposition in order to return some of his office budget to the U.S. Treasury.

"I'm frugal at home and I'm frugal at work," Pastor said. "All taxpayers want government to control spending, and I try to set that example in my office."

The National Taxpayers Union is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that advocates for lower taxes and smaller government at all levels. The report analyzed how each Members' Representational Account (MRA) was spent. The MRA for each Representative covers all office operations, including rent, salaries and member travel. There are 435 members of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Pastor only spent 73 percent, or about \$939,500, of his MRA.