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**STRONG ECONOMIC FUNDAMENTALS CRITICAL TO REVENUE GROWTH,
DEFICIT REDUCTION**

WASHINGTON -- Today the Department of Labor revised productivity data for the first quarter of 2006 up to 3.7 percent in the non-farm business sector and up to 3.9 in the business sector from an already strong level.

OMB Director Rob Portman made the following statement:

“The President’s pro-growth policies continue to produce good results for the American economy and today’s news is further proof. Our economy’s fundamentals are strong, and, in fact, productivity is even stronger than previously reported.

“That is good news for Americans since productivity growth is the source of rising wages and salaries. This has positive benefits for our Federal budget too.”

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