

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**REP. RICK LARSEN, AMBASSADOR DINO DJALAL, AND SENIOR HILL STAFF TO
ADDRESS THE ROLE OF CONGRESS IN THE REBALANCE TOWARD ASIA**

WASHINGTON, D.C. (April 16, 2013) – As the 113th Congress takes helm, responding to an increasingly dangerous North Korea, concluding Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement negotiations, managing the drawdown of troops from Afghanistan, and progressing relations with Myanmar are a few of the complex issues in Asia demanding attention. The Obama administration has placed an increased emphasis on the region in recognition of its growing global economic and strategic importance, announcing a rebalancing to Asia last year. During a time of constrained resources and competing domestic priorities, Congress will play a pivotal role in this strategy through its spending and oversight powers and ability to approve trade agreements.

With this in mind, The National Bureau of Asian Research (NBR) will host Representative Rick Larsen, Indonesia's Ambassador Dino Patti Djalal, and other senior experts on April 17 at **"Engaging Asia 2013: How Will the 113th Congress Address the Rebalance toward Asia?"** This half-day conference will feature discussion of congressional priorities for the U.S. rebalancing strategy. It will also include an assessment of NBR's new report by Edward Gresser (Progressive Economy) and Daniel Twining (German Marshall Fund of the United States), "[Whose Pacific Century? The 113th Congress and Asia](#)," which outlines key policy issues that the new Congress will confront in the region.

WHO:

Congressman Rick Larsen is Co-chair of the U.S.-China Working Group and represents Washington's 2nd Congressional District.

Ambassador Dino Patti Djalal is Indonesia's Ambassador to the United States.

Abe Denmark is NBR's Vice President for Political and Security Affairs (PSA).

Edward Gresser is the Director of Progressive Economy.

Senator Slade Gorton is Counselor (in residence) at NBR. He represented Washington State in the U.S. Senate.

Meredith Miller is NBR's Senior Vice President for Trade, Energy and Economic Affairs (TEEA) & Outreach and Director of NBR's Washington, D.C., Office.

Pamela Passman is President and CEO of the Center for Responsible Enterprise and Trade (CREATE.org).

Professional staff from the House and Senate will provide **off-the-record** responses from Capitol Hill.

WHEN: **Wednesday, April 17**
 9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

WHERE: **Reserve Officers Association**
 One Constitution Avenue, NE
 Washington, D.C. 20002

AGENDA: Available on the NBR website [here](#).

For media inquiries, including registration, contact:
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Founded in 1989 with a major grant from the Henry M. Jackson Foundation, NBR is an independent, nonpartisan research institution committed to informing and strengthening policy in the Asia-Pacific. NBR also helps train the next generation of scholars who concentrate on Asia.