

## Congressman Rothman Votes for Historic Recovery Plan

New Legislation Gives  
States and Localities  
Much Needed Economic Help

(Washington, DC)

— Today, Congressman Steve Rothman (D — Fair Lawn) voted in favor the historic \$787 billion dollar American Recovery and Reinvestment Act which passed the U.S. House of Representatives 246 to 183.

“A lot has been accomplished in this legislation and I am hopeful that it will begin a new, smarter era of American investments in our nation’s own infrastructure and in our own people. There is a lot more work still to be done, but this historic plan is a solid, substantial and positive contribution to America’s recovery,” said Rothman.

Nearly 600,000 Americans lost their jobs in January of this year alone, and 3.6 million Americans have lost their jobs since December 2007. The unemployment rate today in America stands at 7.6 percent. The Recovery and Reinvestment Act creates or saves three and a half million jobs. The plan cuts taxes for 95 percent of American workers; the child tax credit is expanded and middle class families have been spared from paying the Alternative Minimum Tax; and nearly 80 percent of the money in the plan is spent in the next 20 months.

The recovery plan makes unprecedented investments in roads, bridges, mass transit, the national electric grid, flood control, clean water and other infrastructure projects. It provides funds for business incentives and numerous energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. It devotes federal dollars for 21st Century school renovation and increases college tuition assistance. There is money for modernization of medical record technology to reduce errors, save lives and billions of health care dollars. It provides unprecedented accountability and transparency to help ensure tax dollars are spent wisely and restore the American people’s confidence — with no earmarks.

&ldquo;The recovery plan creates jobs, rebuilds America, makes us more globally competitive, provides tax cuts for our people, moves us towards energy independence, transforms our economy for long-term growth, addresses the needs of those Americans suffering the most and helps states avoid raising local property taxes and possibly financial collapse,&rdquo; said Rothman.

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