

Congressman Rothman Votes to Help Small Businesses

Bill
Also Creates New Job Opportunities for Veterans

(Washington, DC) — Today, Congressman Steve Rothman (D-NJ) voted to help assist small businesses and drive economic growth, by supporting the “Job Creation through Entrepreneurship Act.” The Act gives small businesses and entrepreneurs new tools and resources to succeed, especially in a challenging economic climate. The Act passed the US House 406 to 15.

“Small businesses are the backbone of our economy,” said Rothman. “And I am deeply committed to supporting the spirit of entrepreneurs. The Act we passed today will help get our country out of this financial downturn.”

The Act marks the first major overhaul of the Small Business Administration’s entrepreneurial development programs in a decade. It expands and improves some of the most successful programs, including Small Business Development Centers, Women’s Business Centers and the Service Corps of Retired Executives. The bill also creates new online learning programs and establishes grant programs to assist small firms in securing capital and credit.

“These programs are some of the smartest investments we can make in our economy,” said Rothman. “For every dollar we spend on a successful entrepreneurship program, we see a \$2.87 return to the Treasury. Last year alone, these development programs created 73,000 jobs.”

The bill also establishes, for the first time, a nationwide network of Veterans Business Centers to provide specialized entrepreneurial training and counseling to our nation’s veterans.

“We are not only taking care of those who are struggling to get their small businesses through this economic crisis, but we are also providing resources for out-of-work Americans who want to become entrepreneurs,” said Rothman. “This Congress is committed to putting Americans back to work, and with this bill we help small businesses lead the way.”

###

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Wednesday, May 20, 2009

CONTACT: Carrie Giddins, 202-225-5061; 202-420-1524 (cell)

