

Congressman Rothman Announces Millions of Dollars in Recovery Act Funding for Weatherization Programs Throughout New Jersey

Money will expand weatherization assistance programs and create jobs

(Washington, DC) — Congressman Steve Rothman (D — NJ), a member of the U.S. House Appropriations Committee, announced millions of dollars in federal funding for New Jersey's weatherization assistance programs. These funds will help to weatherize homes, cut energy costs for families that need it, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and create green jobs. The funding is provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (the Stimulus Act), through the Department of Energy.

"Today's investments will save money for hard working families, reduce pollution, help move America toward a clean energy future and create new, green jobs," said Rothman. "New Jersey will receive over \$47.5 million in funding, which will allow families to save money by making their homes more energy efficient, which results in average savings of 32 percent for heating bills and savings of hundreds of dollars per year on overall energy bills."

New Jersey will use its Recovery Act funds to weatherize more than 12,700 homes in the next three years, providing energy savings to low-income families and elderly and disabled residents. New Jersey will spend an average of \$6,500 to weatherize each home. The Office of Low-Income Energy Conservation (OLIEC) in the Department of Community Affairs will implement the state's plan, working with 22 local agencies to weatherize homes in each of the state's 21 counties.

In addition to working with these local organizations, OLIEC will coordinate with the New Jersey Housing Mortgage and Finance Agency to weatherize eligible multi-family buildings throughout the state. And to increase the effectiveness of the weatherization program, local weatherization organizations will also work to educate homeowners about additional ways to save energy in their homes.

Recovery Act funding for the 9th Congressional District can be tracked on Congressman Rothman's website at <http://rothman.house.gov>.

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