

## Congressman Rothman Votes to Pass a "Resolution of Disapproval" of Rep. Joe Wilson

(Washington, DC) — Congressman Steve Rothman (D — NJ) made the following statement after voting to pass a "resolution of disapproval" of Rep. Joe Wilson (R — SC). The resolution can be found below Rothman's statement:

"Today I voted, along with my colleagues for a resolution disapproving of Rep. Joe Wilson's conduct at the September 9th Joint Session of Congress.

"By House rules and tradition, every House Member addresses his/her breaches of decorum themselves by apologizing in the "well" on the House floor. When this does not happen, the House as a whole may address the matter with any one of four (4) admonishments of the offending member: disapproval, reprimand, censure and expulsion.

"Today's "resolution of disapproval" is consistent with House rules and is necessary to support the over 200 year effort to provide for vigorous, but civil debate in the U.S. House of Representatives."

Raising a question of the privileges of the House

Whereas on September 9, 2009, during the joint session of Congress convened pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 179, the President of the United States, speaking at the invitation of the House and Senate, had his remarks interrupted by the Representative from South

Carolina, Mr. Wilson; and

Whereas the conduct of the Representative from South Carolina was a breach of decorum and degraded the proceedings of the joint session, to the discredit of the House: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives disapproves of the behavior of the Representative from South Carolina, Mr. Wilson, during the joint session of Congress held on September 9, 2009.

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