

Representative Rothman Proud to Extend Unemployment Benefits to Millions of Americans

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Washington, DC – Representative Steve Rothman (D-NJ), a member of the House Appropriations, and Science and Technology Committees, released the following statement on the Restoration of Emergency Unemployment Compensation Act (H.R. 5618), which passed the U.S. House of Representatives by a vote of 270-153:

I am very proud to support the Restoration of Emergency Unemployment Compensation Act, which extends unemployment insurance to millions of Americans. By ensuring that the Emergency Unemployment Compensation and Extended Benefits programs last through November 30, 2010, this legislation will provide a lifeline to help families hit hardest by the downturn in the economy. This will help make sure that our government works for all Americans, not just the richest among us.

Extending unemployment insurance allows families to stay afloat while the Democratic Congress continues to create jobs, help improve the hiring environment for small businesses, invest in the success in our economy, and bring our deficit under control. In fact, the Congressional Budget Office has found that extending unemployment benefits is one of the best ways to stimulate our economy.

However, I am disturbed that nearly 80% of my Republican colleagues refused to lend their support to this legislation. Getting our economy going and creating jobs is something that I would hope we could all agree on, but it seems not.

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