

Rep. Rothman Lauds Passage and Signing into Law of the Education Jobs and Medicaid Assistance Act

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Washington, DC -- On August 10, 2010, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Education Jobs and Medicaid Assistance Act (H.R. 1586) by a vote of 247-161 and was signed into law by President Barack Obama later that day. Representative Steve Rothman (NJ-9), a member of the House Appropriations Committee, supports this legislation because it provides much needed Medicaid assistance to millions of Americans and helps save jobs both nationally and in New Jersey.

"The Education Jobs and Medicaid Assistance Act will not only help save and create 319,000 jobs nationwide, including police, teachers, and firefighters, and thousands more at home in New Jersey, but it provides essential funds to states that requested assistance in providing Medicaid to the poorest and working poor - so as not to ask local taxpayers to pay more taxes," said Rep. Rothman. "We did all of this, and reduced the burden on local and state taxpayers, without adding a single penny to the deficit, by cutting spending and closing tax loopholes for corporations who received tax breaks for taking their companies overseas."

"This law will prevent some of the otherwise imminent layoffs of our children's teachers before the school year begins. In New Jersey, we have already lost thousands of education jobs and our schools are stretched to the limit," said Rep. Rothman. "This will also go to help provide funds for life saving services after 42 governors wrote to us earlier this year and said they needed help paying for healthcare for the poorest people in their states. And, because we found offsets in the budget, this bill not only doesn't add to our debt, but actually reduces the deficit by \$1.4 billion over 10 years."

"As America is climbing out of the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression, we're moving the country forward," said Rep. Rothman.

According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities this bill will provide New Jersey an estimated \$399 million in Medicaid assistance from January to June 2011. And the U.S. Department of Education estimates that nearly 4,000 education jobs will be funded in New Jersey.

Watch Rep. Rothman's talk in support of the Education Jobs and Medicaid Assistance Act on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives this morning: <http://www.c-spanarchives.org/program/ID/230317&start=527&end=599>

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