

Congressman Rothman to Continue to Serve on the Powerful House Appropriations Committee in the 112th Congress

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Washington, DC -- On January 19, 2011, Congressman Steve Rothman (D-NJ) was selected to continue to serve on the powerful House Appropriations Committee and, specifically, on two of its most influential subcommittees: Defense; and State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs. The Appropriations Committee is charged with making the final decisions in directing all federal spending.

Since first being appointed to the Appropriations Committee in 2001, Congressman Rothman has secured more than two billion dollars in funds for New Jersey's schools, hospitals, infrastructure and other local projects in his district and throughout the state. Every federal dollar that Congressman Rothman has brought back from Washington, DC to the Ninth Congressional District has been one less dollar that local taxpayers have had to pay in property taxes for these vital projects.

The Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense is responsible for directing every federal dollar for all of our nation's military expenditures - more than half of the discretionary budget for the U.S.

"No issue is more important to me than keeping my constituents and people throughout America safe. I look forward to working with Defense Appropriations Subcommittee Chairman Bill Young (R-FL) and Ranking Member Norm Dicks (D-WA) to continue to improve our national security and ensure that America's armed forces remain the best trained, equipped, paid, protected and operating military force in the world," said Congressman Rothman.

The Appropriations Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs is the panel that directs funding for U.S. diplomacy and foreign assistance, which are the cornerstones in preventing future threats to our nation's security and combating instability in poor countries around the world. U.S. diplomacy allows dialogue with our friends and appropriate contact with competitors and potential adversaries. Foreign assistance provides developing countries with the means and guidance to improve health and education systems, anti-corruption practices, and democratic institution building that will lead to greater stability and security in the developing world.

"My position on the Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee allows me to continue to strengthen our commitment to America's allies and to engage with hostile nations to advance our national priorities and to make our country and the planet a safer, more secure place," said Congressman Rothman. "I look forward to working with subcommittee Chairwoman Kay Granger (R-TX) and Ranking Member Nita Lowey (D-NY) to meet these ends."

Congressman Rothman is beginning his 15th year in the U.S. House of Representatives and he is the one of two members of New Jersey's congressional delegation currently serving on the Appropriations Committee.

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