

Congressman Rothman's Statement on his Vote to Protect the Payroll Tax Cut

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Washington, DC --

Congressman Steve Rothman (D-NJ) released the following statement on his vote against the House Republicans' rejection of the bipartisan Senate compromise on the payroll tax cut, unemployment insurance extensions, and preserving seniors' ability to get health care:

Today, I voted against the House Republican bill that kills a compromise that had the support of House Democrats, 50 Senate Democrats, and 39 Senate Republicans. The bipartisan compromise would have extended unemployment benefits for more than 120,000 New Jerseyans and a payroll tax cut of \$1,500, on average, to 4.7 million New Jerseyans. In addition, the compromise would have prevented more than a 27% cut for payments to doctors under Medicare. This cut threatens to deprive 1.3 million New Jersey seniors, and 48 million seniors nationwide, of a doctor's care.

Unfortunately, House Republicans rejected this proposal even after the vast majority of Senate Republicans approved this two-month compromise. House Republicans must immediately abandon their extreme right-wing Tea Party politics, permit an up or down vote to protect these programs for all Americans, and allow negotiations to continue on a full-year extension.

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