

Rothman Supports Legislation Ensuring Katrina Federal Funds Spent Properly

Congressman

NEWS RELEASE

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--Bipartisan Legislation Establishes the Office of the Special Inspector General to Supervise the Federal Appropriations Made Available for Katrina Recovery Efforts--

(Washington, DC)- In order to ensure that the federal funds appropriated for the Katrina relief efforts are being spent properly, Congressman Steve Rothman (D-NJ) has co-sponsored H.R. 3737, the Special Inspector General for Hurricane Katrina Recovery Act. If this bill is enacted, it would establish the Office of the Special Inspector General for Hurricane Katrina Recovery and have the Department of Homeland Security appoint an official to supervise the expenditures for the recovery process. Rothman joined 32 of his colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation, which was introduced on September 13, 2005 by Congressman Jim Kolbe (R-AZ).

"This bill is the first step to ensuring that the federal funds for the recovery process in Hurricane Katrina's aftermath are spent properly," said Rothman. "Also, by creating an Office of the Special Inspector General for Hurricane Katrina Recovery, Congress will be able to monitor the spending of the Katrina Congressional appropriations more effectively and be better prepared to respond to the needs of victims of future disasters of catastrophic proportion."

Rothman is the first Member of Congress from Bergen County to secure a seat on the powerful House Appropriations Committee in the history of the United States. Since this committee recommends spending decisions for Congress, he is in an excellent position to serve as a watchdog over the billions that will be spent on disaster relief.

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