

## Statement of Congressman Steve Rothman on the Aftermath of Hurricane Katrina

Washington, DC -- Congressman Steve Rothman (D-Fair Lawn) released the following statement today on the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina:

Congressman

NEWS RELEASE

Steve Rothman

New Jersey, District 9

For Immediate Release

September 2, 2005

Contact: Bob Decheine

Phone: 202-225-5061

STATEMENT OF CONGRESSMAN STEVE ROTHMAN  
ON THE AFTERMATH OF HURRICANE KATRINA

Washington, DC -- Congressman Steve Rothman (D-Fair Lawn) released the following statement today on the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina:

"The most important responsibility of government at any level is to protect the people. It is now becoming increasingly clear that for the people of New Orleans and many of the surrounding areas, it is taking too long to fulfill this responsibility. Ultimately, I do not believe that financial concerns will limit the federal government's ability to help the victims of the Gulf Coast recover and rebuild. We will find and dedicate the resources to get the job done. But what has undermined the government's ability to help these people is an apparent lack of adequate preparation and at a minimum, a delayed effective effort to coordinate and lead relief efforts on the ground.

I am pleased that President Bush is personally addressing the situation today in Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana. The people there need to see and hear that their elected leaders care and are on top of the situation. The President's personal intervention will help in that regard. This calamity is a national tragedy and dealing with it effectively must move to the very top of our list of priorities. Our nation, with all its compassion and resources, cannot and will not tolerate the suffering of our citizens that we are seeing on our television screens. I am hopeful that now, with the President's personal involvement, the situation will stabilize and soon improve."

###