

## Rothman Receives Highest Rating In New Jersey From National Public Interest Group

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From National Public Interest Group  
U.S. Public Interest Research Group Cites Congressman's  
Strong Environmental & Consumer Protection Record

Washington, DC - Citing his ongoing commitment to preserving the environment, protecting consumers, and revitalizing participation in the democratic process, the U.S. Public Interest Group (U.S. PIRG) has given Congressman Steve Rothman (D-NJ9) an outstanding rating on its annual scorecard that ranks Members of Congress on their public interest voting record. Rothman tied with two other New Jersey House Members for the highest rating in the state's House delegation.

"I am very pleased to have received an outstanding rating from U.S. PIRG because it reflects my commitment to doing what is best for the people of New Jersey," Rothman said. "I will continue to work hard to ensure that our natural environment is protected, the air we breathe is clean, the water we drink is clean, that we are protected from corporate fraud and gimmicks, and that our democracy works the way Americans expect it to work."

The U.S. PIRG scorecard looks at the most important public interest votes taken between March 1, 2001 and February 13, 2003. It tracked such diverse public interest votes as protecting the Clean Air Act, ensuring that no drilling occurred in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, preventing future "Enron" fiascos, and increasing access to affordable prescription drugs. Rothman never voted against the public interest position.

"Representing Northern New Jersey - one of the most densely crowded regions in the most densely crowded state in the nation - I recognize how important it is that we save our precious open space. That is why I am committed to the creation of the Meadowlands Environmental Park," Rothman said. "New Jerseyans expect their elected officials to stand up for them and that is exactly what I do every single day - from protecting the environment to protecting consumers."

The scorecard with details on individual votes can be viewed online at [www.pirg.org/score2003](http://www.pirg.org/score2003). U.S. PIRG is the national advocacy office for the state Public Interest Research Groups. State PIRGs are nonprofit, nonpartisan public interest advocacy groups.

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