

## Rep. Rothman Addresses Area Youth at 'Model Congress'

For Immediate Release

Contact: Brice Peyre

Phone: 201-646-0808

REP. ROTHMAN ADDRESSES AREA YOUTH AT  
'MODEL CONGRESS'

--"The Future of the Republic Rests in the Hands of America's Youth," He Tells 'Model' Senators and Congress Members

--

(WAYNE, NJ) Congressman Steve Rothman (D-Fair Lawn) addressed area high school students participating in the 2005 Model Congress at the event's opening ceremonies at William Paterson University on Sunday, May 22. "The survival of this country, as well as the future of the republic, rests in the hands of America's youth. You are our future. You have to make sure that this great country lives up to its promise of justice for all, equal opportunity for all, and liberty for all," Representative Rothman told the students.

The Herald News Model Congress ran for two days, Sunday, May 22 and Monday, May 23, 2005. Students were divided into political parties and worked on debating, drafting, and passing bills. Student journalists were also included as part of the program; they reported on the progress of the Model Congress, and compiled profiles of each student legislator. As part of the opening ceremonies, all 32 students who participated as senators - two from each of the 16 participating area high schools - were sworn in by U.S. Senator Jon Corzine (D-NJ), and the 112 students who participated as "Model Members of Congress" were sworn in by Representatives Rothman and William Pascrell (D-Paterson). The "lower house" of the Model Congress was apportioned according to the size of the student body at the school which each represented, similar to the manner in which the U.S House of Representatives is apportioned by population.

Representative Rothman addressed more than 144 students from 16 area high schools from Passaic and Bergen Counties about the importance of studying and learning about value of learning about public affairs, the democratic process, and the United States government and encouraged their participation in worthwhile learning experiences such as the Model Congress.

The Model Congress is sponsored by the North Jersey Media Group Foundation, the charitable arm of the parent company of both the Herald News and The Record newspapers, which organizes and operates the recurring event. Alfred P. Doblin, Editorial Page Editor/Public Editor of the Herald News, moderated the opening ceremony.