

Welcoming SEIU Members to DC

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Congressman Rothman Pleased to Meet with Service Employees International Union Members

Pictured (L-R): Dave McCann, Executive Director of SEIU-NJ State Council; Alison Hirsh, Assistant Political Director for SEIU Local 32BJ in Bergen County; Kevin Brown of West Orange, New Jersey District Director for SEIU Local 32BJ; Rep. Rothman; Marvin Hamilton of Elizabeth, Secretary Treasurer for SEIU Local 1199; and Rahaman Muhammad of Newark, President of SEIU Local 617.

(Washington, DC)—On Tuesday, September 18, 2007, representatives from the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) in New Jersey thanked Congressman Steve Rothman (D-Fair Lawn) for his strong support of legislation important to working families. In particular, they were pleased with Rothman's advocacy in favor of expanding the government-funded free and low-cost health insurance options for children. Likewise, Rep. Rothman expressed his gratitude to SEIU for promoting such a vital issue and working hard for its members.

"Ensuring that working families can afford health care for their children is not only pro-labor, but pro-American. I applaud SEIU-New Jersey's leadership on moving our nation toward a universal health care system that protects every American. One of the biggest myths is that those who are uninsured don't work. In fact, eight out of ten people who are uninsured are in working families. That situation is wrong and I thank SEIU's members for constantly educating Congress and the public on the importance of policies that protect the American Dream for all Americans, not just a privileged few," said Rothman.

The group also discussed the importance of the Employee Free Choice Act, legislation that Rep. Rothman co-sponsored to provide for a simple, fair, and direct method for workers to form unions by signing cards or petitions known as "majority sign-up." The House passed the bill in March by a vote of 241 to 185, but Republicans have blocked it in the Senate.

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See also: Rep. Rothman: A Pro-Labor Agenda is Pro-American