

## As 110th Congress Begins, Rothman Co-Sponsors Democrats' "First 100 Hours" Agenda

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Contact: Kimberly Allen, (202) 226-8364; (202) 420-1524 [cell]

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Rothman backs ethics reform, minimum wage increase, stem cell research, implementing all of the 9/11 Commission recommendations, and more.

(Washington, DC)—When the 110th Congress is sworn-in this week, Congressman Steve Rothman (D-NJ) and his Democratic colleagues will immediately move forward with the "First 100 Hours" agenda. Specifically, during the first 100 hours that Congress spends voting on legislation, Rothman and Democrats will work to pass a series of bills that were announced last November, beginning with ethics reform.

"This Thursday, I will be sworn-in as a member of the new Democratic Majority. I am proud to say that as soon as I take office, I will have an opportunity to vote for strong ethics reform that will ban gifts and travel from lobbyists and make earmarks more transparent. I will also support new rules to improve the way Congress operates by guaranteeing all Members have time to read legislation and ending 2-day work weeks. I am pleased to co-sponsor these and so many other commonsense measures that are part of the First 100 Hours agenda," said Rothman.

As Rothman explained, Democrats will begin passing the 100 Hours legislation on January 4th, the first day of the new Congress. In addition to ethics reform, Democrats will commit to pay-as-you-go budgeting, which prohibits any new spending or tax changes that will add to the federal deficit. The agenda, all of which Rothman supports, includes:

- Making America more secure by fully implementing the independent 9/11 Commission recommendations;
- Giving Americans a raise by increasing the federal minimum wage from \$5.15 to \$7.25 an hour;
- Making college more affordable by cutting the interest rate in half on federally subsidized student loans;
- Making health care more affordable by allowing the government to negotiate for lower prescription drug prices;
- Beginning on a path to energy independence by ending subsidies for Big Oil and investing in renewable energy and energy efficiency; and
- Giving hope to families with devastating diseases by allowing stem cell research.

In the 110th Congress, Rothman will remain a member of the powerful House Appropriations Committee, which makes decisions about all federal spending.

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