

Rothman Recognizes October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Congressman

NEWS RELEASE

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ROTHMAN RECOGNIZES OCTOBER AS
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

--Continues Efforts to End Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse in America--

(Washington, DC)- In observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October, Congressman Steve Rothman (D-NJ) pledged his sustained commitment to ending domestic violence and sexual abuse in America. As a strong advocate for this issue, Rothman introduced the Domestic Violence Victim Protection Act on July 28, 2005, which combats domestic violence by notifying law enforcement officers sooner about crimes related to domestic abuse. Additionally, with Congressman Rothman's vote, the House of Representatives passed a partial renewal of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) on Wednesday, September 28, 2005, which made improvements to the law, established and expanded the number of rape crisis centers, and increased grant funding for community organizations that work to prevent and eliminate domestic violence.

"All Americans deserve to feel safe in their communities, their work places and their homes. Yet, domestic violence remains a serious problem across the country," said Rothman. "Every year, thousands of Americans become victims in their own homes. Nearly one in four women will experience domestic violence during their lifetimes. And slightly more than half of female victims of family violence live in households with children under the age of 12. Growing up in a violent home is a terrifying and traumatic experience that can affect every aspect of a child's life, growth, and development. To end the cycle of violence and promote healthy families, we must ensure that communities have the resources required to prevent abuse and provide victims of domestic violence with the support they need to escape violent relationships and begin to rebuilding their lives. By supporting legislation such as the Domestic Violence Protection Act and VAWA, we are on the way to making that a reality, but more must be done."

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