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Congressman Encourages Adults and Children To Spend More Time Reading

Washington, DC - In an effort to promote reading among adults and children alike, Congressman Steve Rothman (D-NJ9) recently participated in the Get Caught Reading program on Capitol Hill. Rothman joined more than 200 of his colleagues from the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate who had their pictures taken reading a favorite book or magazine. Rothman took some time to read from one of his favorite books, the Pulitzer Prize winning novel, "The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay" by Michael Chabon.

"Reading helps our imaginations develop and enables us to better understand lives and worlds different from our own and is just plain fun," Rothman said. "It is especially critical that parents encourage children to read beginning at an early age so that reading becomes a daily habit. Helping to make our children excited about reading will motivate them to pick up books, magazines, and newspapers on their own and thus help them gain the knowledge, and the ability to learn even more, that will allow them to succeed in life."

Rothman suggested several ideas for adults to help encourage their children to read:

- * Remember to set an example at home by reading books, magazines, and newspapers. Be a role model.
- * Set aside time each day to read and encourage others in your family to do the same.
- * Keep books, magazines, and newspapers around the home.
- * Read books, magazines, and newspapers aloud to each other.
- * Join a book club.
- * Give books, as well as magazine and newspaper subscriptions as gifts.
- * Get library cards for you and your children and visit the library often.

The Get Caught Reading program is a nationwide campaign to remind people of all ages how much fun it is to read. In addition to elected officials, celebrities and storybook characters such as, Clifford the Big Red Dog, Donald Duck, Derek Jeter, Sammy Sosa, Spider-Man, and Robin Williams have all posed for Get Caught Reading photographs.

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