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New Jersey Lawmaker Delivers Fresh Cannolis, Bagels,
and Fruits & Vegetables To Texas Lawmaker

Washington, DC -After watching the NBA Championship slip away from his beloved New Jersey Nets and into the hands of the San Antonio Spurs, Congressman Steve Rothman (D-NJ9) today made good on his bet over the series with his colleague, Congressman Ciro Rodriguez (D-TX28). Rothman delivered fresh Italian cannolis from Leonard's Novelty Bakery in Moonachie, a dozen bagels from Leonia Bagels in Leonia, and a basket of fruits and vegetables from Evergreen Farm in Hackensack to Rodriguez's office.

"I congratulate the Spurs on their championship, but I am convinced that the third time will be the charm for the New Jersey Nets who will prevail in next year's NBA Finals," said Rothman of the Nets repeat this year as Eastern Conference champs. "As my fellow New Jerseyan Jon Bon Jovi would say, the Nets have been shot through the heart and the Spurs are to blame, but with the Nets stellar performance, New Jersey has certainly not been given a bad name. With the Nets in the finals and the Devils winning the Stanley Cup for the third time in nine years, New Jersey has demonstrated that it is the sports capital of the world."

Rodriguez added, "I graciously accept the debt owed to me by my esteemed colleague from New Jersey. I too would like to congratulate the New Jersey Nets on a tough, exciting NBA final. But as I told Congressman Rothman from the beginning 'Don't Mess With Texas.' In Texas we do everything BIG and so we couldn't just make it to the final and be content with that, -- we were here to win the championship. We came, we saw and we conquered."

Rothman, whose district includes the Continental Airlines Arena and Meadowlands where the Nets play, made the bet two weeks ago with Rodriguez whose district includes the SBC Center, which is the home of the Spurs. Had the Nets won the series, Rodriguez had promised to give Rothman an assortment of Pan Dulce (Sweet Bread), Dulces (Mexican Candy) and a t-shirt from the famous Mi Tierra Restaurant in San Antonio, Texas.

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