

Rothman Statement On House Passage Of Omnibus Appropriations Bill For Fiscal Year 2003

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Washington, DC - Congressman Steve Rothman (D-NJ9), a member of the House Appropriations Committee, today released the following statement after the U.S. House of Representatives approved the omnibus appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2003. Rothman voted for the measure.

“As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, I have worked very hard and very closely with my colleagues to ensure that the final appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2003 includes funds for the projects that New Jersey needs and deserves. Given the difficult fiscal situation in which this nation finds itself, I am very grateful that we were able to secure as much money for New Jersey as we did.

“Tonight, the House recognized the importance of saving and preserving the Hackensack Meadowlands as an environmental park by approving an additional \$3.28 million for land acquisition and a federal-state study on how to cleanup and preserve the Meadowlands. The House also recognized the need to improve New Jersey’s aging transportation infrastructure by designating hundreds of millions for highway and rail projects in response to my efforts and others of those in the New Jersey Congressional delegation. In addition, the House saw the importance of protecting our children from school violence by approving \$5 million for my Secure Our Schools Act - which allows schools to apply for federal grants to pay for various security measures and equipment. Additionally, there are numerous other projects which will create jobs, improve homeland security, and help cleanup our environment.

“I look forward to working this year to secure even more money for New Jersey as we enact the 2004 budget. Living in the most densely crowded state in the nation, I am pleased that my new position on the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation and Treasury will allow me to bring home many more federal dollars for New Jersey’s transportation needs on the roads, rails, and in the air.”

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