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Washington, DC – On Friday, Rep. Steve Israel (D – N.Y.) released the following statement on Cash for Clunkers:

"The fact that the Cash for Clunkers money has already been used up shows that this program was, and can continue to be, an overwhelming success and we can't let it run out of gas. In fact, we can build on our success by extending the program until the end of the summer, then passing my original ‘Cash for Clunkers’ bill. That legislation called for a greater investment in Cash for Clunkers, even better mileage efficiency standards and included fuel-efficient used cars.”

Rep. Israel and Rep. Jay Inslee (D-WA) introduced the Accelerated Retirement of Inefficient Vehicles Act (H.R.520), which would issues vouchers of up to $5,500 for those who turned in an inefficient vehicle (18 mpg at time of purchase or less) and upgraded to a fuel efficient vehicle (25 percent above CAFE standards or more).

Rep. Israel serves on the House Appropriations Committee.