

Washington, DC—Today, Rep. Steve Israel was selected by Speaker-elect Nancy Pelosi and the Steering and Policy Committee to serve on the powerful House Appropriations Committee. The Appropriations Committee is responsible for setting funding levels for all federal programs.

“One of the most important responsibilities of Congress is to determine spending priorities through the appropriations process,” said Rep. Israel. “After years of reckless spending in Congress that has turned our record surplus into a record high deficit, I’m eager to work with Speaker-elect Pelosi and the new Democratic leadership to restore fiscal responsibility while protecting priorities that matter to Americans. Instead of providing \$2 billion in subsidies to Big Oil, we’ll invest in programs that increase our energy independence, protect our soldiers and Veterans, lower the cost of prescription drugs and make college more affordable.”

Because it is one of the most sought-after committees, members serving on the House Appropriations Committee must give up other committee assignments. Israel currently serves on the Armed Services and Financial Services Committees. Because the Appropriations Committee has jurisdiction over all federal programs, Israel will continue work on his key priorities including defense and financial services issues, energy security and college affordability.