Why I voted Yes on H.R. 2608, the Continuing Appropriations Act for 2012

I voted Yes on H.R. 2608, the Continuing Appropriations Act for 2012. This bill would fund the government through November 18, 2011. H.R. 2608 provides funding generally at 2011 levels minus 1.5 percent -- cutting annualized discretionary spending by $7 billion compared to last year. This is the second year in a row where federal discretionary spending will have actually declined compared to the previous year.

Importantly, the bill includes $2.65 billion for FEMA disaster relief which is much-needed in Upstate New York after Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee. I supported this bill because it will keep the government running and provide aid to those in need, all while responsibly cutting spending where we can.