Washington, D.C. – Today, Congressman Tom Rooney (R-Fla.) introduced legislation to help lower shipping costs for Florida livestock producers. This bill will help Florida's cattle ranchers and other livestock producers better compete on the national market. Rooney was joined by Rep. Adam Putnam of Bartow in introducing this common sense legislation.

Rooney's bill authorizes states to issue special permits for livestock shippers to operate vehicles up to 95,000 pounds. By increasing the weight limits on livestock trucks, there will be fewer trucks on the road, reducing fuel consumption and resulting in lower shipping cost for the ranchers.

"Florida's cattle and livestock industry relies heavily on shipping livestock out of state. This simple legislation will allow them to more effectively compete and lower the number of trucks on the road," said Rooney. "This is a prime example of how we can effectively remove overly cumbersome government red tape to encourage the growth and success of our agriculture industry in Florida and nationally."