

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Tom Rooney (R-Fla.) released the following statement regarding the vote in the House on the Cap-and-Trade legislation:

“Climate change is a serious issue that deserves our attention; however the misguided Waxman-Markey Cap-and-Trade bill will only increase taxes and cost Americans jobs. Again, the majority has brought a thousand page bill to the floor with minimal time for us to review and analyze the legislation or for public review. Further, the majority only allowed one amendment to be considered on the floor today, rejecting over 220 substantive amendments to this massive bill.

“I supported and voted for the alternative plan that would help the United States become energy independent by creating incentives for private-sector innovation on the scale of the original Manhattan Project. This project would provide grants and prizes for private innovation so we can reach 100% energy independence within 20 years. Unfortunately, that proposal was defeated.

“We all need to work together to develop alternative fuels and reduce greenhouse gas emissions but the way to do it is not by increasing taxes. Now is not the time to penalize and tax hard working American families and small business owners during an economic downturn. Even President Obama said that energy prices will skyrocket with his cap-and-trade plan. The majority’s bill is simply the wrong policy at the wrong time.”