

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Tom Rooney (R-Fla.) released the following statement regarding President Obama's State of the Union Address:

“I was encouraged to hear the President finally focus on creating jobs. However, I disagree with his defense of the failed stimulus bill and continued assertion that we can spend our way out of this downturn. It is time for a common sense jobs bill, not another partisan spending bill that sends us further into debt. We cannot spend our way back to prosperity. We must create jobs in the private sector, not by increasing the size of government. For a year now Republicans have had real solutions to help create quality jobs and yet the President and Congressional Democrats refuse to give us a seat at the table. I have reached across the aisle and introduced jobs bills with my colleague John Boccieri (D-Ohio) that will make permanent tax credits to help create new jobs. We all must work together to help secure our children's future and get American's back to work.

I applaud President Obama's call for a spending freeze in Washington, but the proof is in the pudding. We cannot afford spending at its current level, it is time for Washington to make difficult decisions and make cuts to non-defense spending. We have seen record growth of government with a 17% increase in the last two years alone, we cannot keep at this pace and have a responsibility to reign in the blank check writing in Washington.”