12/09/10

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Tom Rooney (FL-16) issued the following statement after voting no last night on the DREAM Act, which would allow illegal immigrants brought to the U.S. as children to gain legal resident status if they enroll in college or join the military:

“Immigration reform must start with securing our borders, upholding the law, and rewarding those who follow the rules. The DREAM Act would provide an incentive for individuals to come here illegally, undermine the rule of law, and move rule-breakers to the front of the line.

“I strongly oppose provisions that would make students who are here illegally eligible for in-state tuition breaks. Taxpayer money should absolutely not subsidize the higher education of illegal immigrants.

“While I do not support the DREAM Act, I would be willing to consider a stand-alone bill that would grant legal residence status to anyone who puts on the uniform and serves in the U.S. military.”

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