Votes to Cut House Operating Budget 5 Percent; Says Further Cuts to Follow

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Tom Rooney (FL-16) today voted to cut every Congressional office budget by five percent in what he said is the first step to getting federal spending under control.

“Trimming the fat in Congress is the first step toward getting federal spending under control,” Rooney said. “We need to start making the tough decisions to put Washington’s fiscal house in order. When the spending levels set by the last Congress expire in March, the House will immediately return spending to pre-bailout, pre-stimulus levels.

“Voters sent a strong message in November that they are ready for the spending binge in Washington to come to an end. We are going to cut government spending, starting with our own office budgets. The American people are finding ways to cut back, and so should the federal government.”

The five percent budget cut will apply to all leadership offices, committees, and Members' personal allowances, and will save at least $35 million in 2011 alone.

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