

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Tom Rooney (FL-16) issued the following statement on the possible government shutdown that will occur if Congress does not pass an agreement to fund the federal government by midnight tonight:

“Unfortunately, at this point, the Senate still has not passed a bill to cut spending and keep the government open. I remain hopeful that House and Senate negotiators will be able to reach an agreement to avert a shutdown.

“The main sticking point is spending cuts. We want to cut spending significantly, and frankly Senate Democrats do not. If they can’t pass a long-term bill, they should at least pass our bill to fund our troops for the remainder of the year, cut spending by \$12 billion, and keep the federal government operational for another week so we can negotiate.

“Last year, the Democrats controlled the House, Senate and White House, and they refused to write a budget or pass a single appropriations bill. Now the House, led by Republicans, has passed several bills to cut spending and avoid a shutdown, but the Senate, controlled by Democrats, has not passed a single bill to keep the government open until after midnight tonight. If their failure results in a shutdown, they would be forcing our troops, who are fighting three wars, to work without pay. That is unacceptable. The clock is ticking.”

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