

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Tom Rooney (FL-16) today said he was pleased the final agreement to cut spending and keep the government open includes his amendment to strike funding for the wasteful extra engine program for the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter. Rooney's bipartisan amendment will save taxpayers \$450 million over the next seven months, and approximately \$3 billion in the years to come.

“After years of throwing good money after bad to fund the wasteful extra engine, we will finally end this unnecessary program once and for all,” Rooney said. “The Pentagon has said repeatedly that they do not want it and do not need it, and the American taxpayers certainly cannot afford it.

“Given the overwhelming bipartisan support my amendment enjoyed in the House, I appreciate Speaker Boehner and Majority Leader Reid including this cut in the final agreement they negotiated. The extra engine is a luxury we simply cannot afford.”

During the initial debate over H.R. 1, the House voted in favor of Rooney's bipartisan amendment to strike funding for the extra engine by a convincing 233-198 margin.

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