

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Tom Rooney (R-FL) issued the following statement in support of legislation before the House today that will extend tax credits to businesses that hire unemployed veterans, and repeal the three percent withholding tax on government contractors.

“Too many of our troops put their lives on the line to defend their country, but return home unable to find work,” Rooney said. “We have a patriotic duty to take care of our veterans, and that includes ensuring they have the opportunity to find a good job here at home. Providing incentives for companies to hire unemployed veterans is critical to reducing the unacceptable twelve percent unemployment rate for our returning troops.”

In addition to the tax credits for hiring unemployed veterans, the bill repeals the three percent withholding tax on businesses that contract with federal, state and local governments.

“Repealing this tax will remove a costly administrative burden and put more money in the hands of small businesses, so they can grow and hire new workers,” Rooney said. “I’m glad we were able to reach a bipartisan consensus on this important step to help small businesses create jobs, and I hope it’s a sign that we can work together and find common ground to create American jobs.”

The House is scheduled to vote on H.R. 674, which Congressman Rooney cosponsored and the Senate approved last week by a 95-0 vote, this evening.

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