

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Tom Rooney (FL-16) issued the following statement after members of the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction announced they were unable to reach an agreement to reduce the deficit by \$1.2 trillion over the next ten years. The deficit committee’s failure will trigger automatic cuts to national security spending totaling \$492 billion.

“This shows exactly why the Congressional approval rate is at nine percent. The federal government on track to spend about \$44 trillion over the next ten years, and the deficit committee has not been able to find just \$1.2 trillion in spending cuts.

“We will face devastating cuts to our national defense if an agreement cannot be reached. Our military leaders have stated in no uncertain terms that these cuts will have dire consequences and severely weaken our national security. We should heed their warnings or risk losing our superpower status.

“If we cannot reach an agreement, both our economy and our national security will suffer. Congress and the President need to step up, do our jobs, and find the savings to prevent these dangerous cuts to national defense.”