

Washington, D.C. – Speaking on the House floor today, U.S. Rep. Tom Rooney (FL-16) called on Congress to act now to address Washington’s debt crisis, which he said is hurting economic growth, slowing job creation, and jeopardizing America’s future.

“Washington’s reckless spending now burdens every child born in the U.S. with a \$50,000 share of the national debt,” Rooney said. “If we don’t do something now, we’ll be the first generation in American history to leave our children a country in worse shape than the one we inherited.

“Our skyrocketing debt doesn’t just affect our children and their future. It damages our economy and our unemployment rate today. Our out-of-control debt is a drag on the economy that fuels uncertainty, hurts our credit rating, slows economic growth, and prevents much-needed job creation.”

Video of Congressman Rooney’s speech is available [here](#) .

Full text of Rooney’s floor speech:

Madam Speaker, our national debt now stands at more than \$15.2 trillion. That amount exceeds the entire U.S. economy.

Washington’s reckless spending now burdens every child born in the U.S. with a \$50,000 share of the national debt. If we don’t do something about it now, we’ll be the first generation in American history to leave our children a nation worse than we inherited.

Our skyrocketing debt doesn’t just affect our children and their future. It damages our economy and our unemployment rate today. It’s a drag on the economy that fuels uncertainty, it hurts our credit rating, it slows economic growth, and it prevents job creation.

When President Obama took office, he pledged to cut the deficit in half by 2012. After three years in office, has he yet to introduce a credible plan to get our deficits under control? No.

Instead, under his watch, the country has hit three of the highest deficits on record, and that's unacceptable. The national debt has grown by more than \$4.6 trillion in his three years in office.

We can't solve our debt problems until we address the root cause of this issue, and that's overspending in here Washington, DC. In the House, we passed a budget that would put our country on the path to a balanced budget. The Senate didn't pass a budget. They didn't take up our budget. They did nothing. We passed nearly \$1 trillion in spending cuts, and we're planning to do more this year.

The Senate, as I said, has not written a budget in nearly a thousand days. If your family was trying to get out of the red, you would sit down at the table, figure out how much you're making, how much you're spending, and where you should cut back. The Senate refuses to do that.

Think about that for a second. How on earth are we supposed to get our fiscal house in order if the Senate won't even write a budget? And why won't the Senate do their jobs? One word – politics. It's no wonder we have a 12 percent approval rating.

Madam Speaker, it's time to cut up the credit cards here in Washington and stop spending more money we don't have. The longer we wait, the harder it will be to fix the mess we're in. Putting our country on a responsible fiscal path is the only way to restart the economy and ensure our children a prosperous future.

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