WASHINGTON, D.C. - Representative Rob Wittman (VA-1) released the following statement today after the U.S. House of Representatives considered H.R. 8, the American Taxpayer Relief Act:

"I regretfully voted against the American Taxpayer Relief Act today because it unfortunately does what Congress does best – kicks the can down the road. While I support low tax rates for Americans and have previously voted to ensure taxes do not go up on hardworking Americans, I could not vote for this bill because it does nothing to reform our long-term spending problems, which are the real drivers of our debt and deficits. In addition, this bill postpones sequestration, the disastrous defense cuts, for only two months. This creates even more uncertainty for our defense industry, which is so vital to the security of this nation. This bill is the epitome of what is wrong with Washington – waiting until the very last minute to pass a package negotiated by only a few. On this New Year's Day, I am deeply disappointed that we are not moving forward with what is best for this Nation – a sustainable, long-term path that will place us on strong financial footing for our children and grandchildren."

Congressman Rob Wittman represents the First District of Virginia. He serves on the House Natural Resources Committee and the House Armed Services Committee, where he is the Chairman of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee.

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