WASHINGTON, DC – Representative Rob Wittman (VA-01) made the following statement upon the announcement by Department of Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel of DoD civilian furloughs:

“Our nation has no greater asset than the folks serving our nation, including those who make up our Department of Defense, both military and civilian alike. Their dedication and service to our nation is unwavering. Unfortunately, those same patriots have lived for months with the uncertainty of the sequester, and will now face the ramifications of indecision and political gamesmanship in Washington. As the Secretary said, this decision ‘will disrupt lives and impact DoD operations.’ I am extremely disappointed the Administration found no other option over furloughs when they had the flexibility to make other choices. Furloughs are just one of the effects of compounding budget cuts on our nation’s defense and military readiness. I will continue to fight for an adequately resourced military, and push for smarter solutions to the nation’s budget woes.”

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 Readiness Subcommittee.