

Representative Rob Wittman issued the following statement in response to the President's third State of the Union Address:

"Tonight, we witnessed a storied tradition of American government, as the President addressed a joint session of Congress and the American people on the state of our union. I believe, as the President stated, that we must preserve the American Dream. A dream fought for by so many in our history, by heroes that gave their lives in the name of freedom. But the American dream does not emerge by sending more money to Washington, over-regulation of our job-creators, or simply saying 'no' to projects that will bring more energy development here in the United States. I was disappointed to hear a proposal for higher taxes. Washington has not shown that it can be responsible in spending, and Americans and job-creators should not be asked to send more of their hard-earned salaries to Washington. Missing from the President's speech was a commitment to ensure our Department of Defense is directed by strategy and not by numbers.

"But even as we disagree on policy, tonight we found inspiration through Rep. Gabby Giffords, whose presence and amazing recovery is an inspiration to us all. I applaud her strength and resolve, and wish her well as she bows out from Congress to focus on her continued recovery. Rather than placing blame, Congress and the President must work together for solutions that keep our country safe, stimulate our economy to grow once again, and to preserve the dreams of a bright future 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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