*WASHINGTON, D.C.* – U.S. Congressman John B. Larson (CT-01), Chairman of the House Democratic Caucus, released the following statement in response to the budget proposal released today by Senate Democrats that would eliminate the F-35 alternate engine.

“I am pleased that the Senate followed in the House’s footsteps to save taxpayers $3 billion by eliminating the wasteful and unnecessary F-35 alternate engine program. This is a victory for local manufacturers, our talented workforce, and the American taxpayer.

“This decision moves us one step closer to permanently ending a program that the military does not want and our country cannot afford.

“I thank my Senate colleagues for their leadership in this critical matter. I especially commend Senator Joe Lieberman for his partnership in this long fight and the entire Connecticut Congressional delegation for their steadfast commitment to this effort.”