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Democrats Prohibit Any Amendments for Iraq War Supplemental

*O & I Ranking Member Cautions Against Hamstringing Iraqi Security Forces*

WASHINGTON, DC- Congressman Todd Akin (R-Mo), Ranking Member of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations will vote against a Democratic proposal to link funding for troops and Iraqi Security Forces with political deadlines set by Congress. The Democratically controlled Rules Committee allowed no amendments to the Iraq War supplemental.

“The supplemental requires the Iraqis to pass a constitutional amendment in six months as a condition for funding the Iraq Security forces,” stated Akin. “Everything we have learned in our work on the ISF to date leads to the conclusion that the ISF is the key to creating a stable Iraq, so that political progress can take place.”

Prior to debate of the supplemental, the Rules Committee rejected an amendment by Congressman Akin to strike provisions that withhold funding to the Iraqi Security Forces. The Democratically controlled committee rejected the amendment and all other amendments and passed a closed rule.

“Given that so much rides on the success or failure of our efforts in Iraq it makes no sense not to allow full debate on ideas and amendments,” said Akin. “It also makes no sense to cut funding for the training and equipping of the Iraqi Security Forces who will have to take responsibility for security when American troops leave. In fact, it is reckless to hamstring the ISF and at the same time attempt to force American troops out.”

“By cutting funding for the Iraqi Security Forces the supplemental is really a plan for failure,” concluded Akin.