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**MEDIA ADVISORY:  
Congressman Akin to Return to Iraq**

WASHINGTON, D.C.- Congressman Todd Akin (R-MO), ranking member of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, will join a congressional delegation trip to Iraq that will be led by Congressman Martin Meehan (D-MA). Previously, Congressman Akin headed a congressional delegation to Iraq in October 2003. He was also part of a congressional delegation visit to Iraq in May of 2005, which was the first after the election of Iraq's new government.

"I look forward to hearing about the progress as well as challenges being faced by those doing the heavy lifting in Iraq," said Congressman Akin whose son is a marine officer who has served in Fallujah, Iraq. "Nothing can replace talking to more junior ranking officers and enlisted members when it comes to understanding the challenges, sacrifices and accomplishments of those serving in Iraq."

Regarding the current debate in Washington, Congressman Akin stated that the non-binding resolution on Iraq being put forward by the majority lacks commitment to any course of action. "The resolution neither puts forward a plan for success, nor does it mandate through the force of law any future course whatsoever," said Akin. "It adds nothing to the debate while discouraging our troops and encouraging our enemies." "Because it offers nothing constructive, the resolution should be dismissed as political grandstanding," concluded Akin. For security purposes, the exact departure times and itineraries must be kept confidential.