

September 28, 2005

**Akin Applauds Choice of Roy Blunt As House GOP Majority Leader**

Washington, D.C.- Congressman Todd Akin (R-MO) issued the following statement regarding Roy Blunt's accession to the House Majority Leader's position:

"Roy Blunt is a proven and effective leader and the logical choice to assume the Majority Leader's post. Approved by the unanimous vote of his House Republican colleagues, Roy is a thoughtful and respected legislator who knows how to advance a positive agenda for our country."

"Recently Roy introduced legislation to encourage charitable giving, which at a time of natural disaster in the Gulf States could not be more timely. All Missourians should be very proud of Roy's ongoing contributions to our nation."

"Before the end of the year, we are going to advance an important agenda ranging from helping the Hurricane victims while finding reductions in federal spending to pay for them to modernizing the Endangered Species Act. We're going to work to bring down the price of gas, strengthen our border security laws, and improve federal entitlement programs. This is an ambitious set of issues, and I am confident we can address them in Congress."

"Tom DeLay has led the House Republican majority during a difficult time for the nation as we have dealt with everything from the terrorist attacks of 9/11 to the devastation of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. He deserves thanks for what he has done to make America stronger and safer. The partisan attack on Tom DeLay is unfounded and Tom will, I believe, be exonerated of the baseless charges leveled against him," Akin concluded.