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Akin says Court's Ruling on Partial Birth Abortion "Shows Contempt for Common Decency"

Washington, D.C. - Congressman Todd Akin (R-MO) strongly criticized today's decision by a federal judge in San Francisco that the Partial Birth Abortion Ban passed by Congress and signed into law by the President is "unconstitutional."

"President Lincoln once said that if slavery is not wrong, then nothing is wrong," said Akin. "The same can be said of partial birth abortion, which is a horribly violent procedure which kills a baby moments before birth. This decision is contemptuous to Congress, which overwhelmingly passed the ban. It shows an arrogant disregard for the legislative process and for the people of our country, the vast majority of whom view the procedure as abhorrent and support the ban.

"This is another case of gratuitous judicial overreaching. When federal judges arbitrarily choose to dismiss the will of the nation's elected representatives and chief executive, they place themselves above the law they are sworn to uphold. I will continue to work in Congress to reign-in the federal judiciary and return it to its constitutional function of applying the law, not legislating from the bench.

"Thankfully, the injunction covers only the plaintiffs in this particular case and has no national scope. It was also issued by a judge who refused to admit pertinent evidence, such as the pain felt by the partially-delivered child, into the record. The Bush Administration is to be commended for standing up for the right to life and I trust the Supreme Court will act to uphold the ban on this gruesome procedure," Akin concluded.