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**Job Growth for Month of April  
"Highlights Need to Make Tax Cuts Permanent," Says Akin**

Washington, D.C. - Missouri Congressman Todd Akin welcomed today's news from the Bureau of Labor Statistics that 288,000 Americans were added to payrolls last month and that the unemployment rate has fallen to 5.6 percent with the first increase in manufacturing jobs in four years.

"This is tremendous news for the American economy and demonstrates the wisdom of reducing America's tax burden in order to create jobs and increase employment," said Akin (R-MO), Chairman of the Small Business Subcommittee on the Workforce, Empowerment and Government Programs. "But Congress needs to act to make the tax cuts which have caused this great economic recovery permanent. That will help ensure that our nation does not lapse into the type of recession that we have fought our way out of."

With today's numbers, the economy has created 596,000 new jobs in just the last two months. In addition, over the last three months, business investment has grown by 11.4 percent with wages and salaries jumping by 4.8 percent.

"Our economy is solid and getting stronger thanks to the Bush tax cuts," said Akin. "With this extraordinary increase in jobs we have turned a very significant corner of economic recovery. By making tax relief permanent, we can stay the course and look forward to even lower unemployment and greater economic vitality."