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Akin Supports Commendation of Troops at
One-Year Anniversary of Operation Iraqi Freedom
Missouri Congressman Also Supports
Counter-Terrorist and Narco-Terrorist Rewards Program Act

Washington, D.C.- Congressman Todd Akin (R-MO), a member of the House Armed Services Committee and its Subcommittee on Terrorism, spoke on the House Floor today in support of a resolution to commend members of the U.S. Armed Services on the one-year anniversary of the beginning of Operation Enduring Freedom.

"For the first time in decades, Iraq is free and its people have hope for their future. That future is bright due to the courageous efforts of America's service men and women and those of our allies in the coalition," Akin said.

"The capstone of our work is the newly approved Iraqi Constitution, which the Iraqi governing council approved earlier this month," Akin continued. "It sets the stage for a whole new way of life for the Iraqi people. That way of life is rooted in something we take too much for granted in our country, our freedom. That freedom is grounded in respect for human rights, which are guaranteed by the new constitution."

Later today, the House plans to vote on the Counter-Terrorist and Narco Terrorist Rewards Program, which would raise the maximum reward from \$5 million to \$25 million, or higher by the direction of the Secretary of State, for information leading to the arrest or conviction of an international terrorist or international drug trafficker.

"This is an important measure that will help us nab more of our terrorist enemies. We are moving forward with our unswerving commitment to destroy international terrorism and advance the cause of liberty and justice for all, and I am confident that, in the end, America will prevail," Akin said.