

January 28, 2003

Statement by Congressman Akin on State of the Union Address

WASHINGTON, D.C.- Congressman Todd Akin said tonight that President Bush's State of the Union Address "laid out a bold and visionary set of proposals to strengthen America at home and safeguard our national security for the long term."

"President Bush has shown the courage to lead and has recognized and engaged the challenges facing America," Akin noted. "The President recognizes that national security and a strong economy are both essential to the future of our country. I support his proposals for bolstering both economic growth and defending security at home and abroad.

"Substantial and long-term tax relief is the best way to stimulate the economy, offer practical assistance to help families and create jobs. That's why his tax reduction plan makes so much sense.

"The President also recognizes the grave threat facing our nation from international terrorists. His resolve in staying the course in the war against terrorism is vital to long-term security and rightfully ensures that America will remain the leading advocate for the promotion of peace and security around the world.

"And although it would be easy to tinker with our health care challenges at the edges, the President has offered a clear and compelling vision of how we can strengthen our health care system for all Americans. He's urging us to take a brave and necessary step, and I support his leadership in this area, as well.

"By offering bold proposals for growing the economy, bolstering security at home and abroad and strengthening and improving health care, the President has squarely addressed the major challenges facing our nation. I look forward to working with him to advance his agenda in the 108th Congress."