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Congressman Akin Co-sponsors Bill to Ban Partial-Birth Abortion

Washington, D.C.- Congressman Todd Akin has co-sponsored legislation that would make illegal partial birth abortion. Congress has twice-passed a partial-birth abortion ban, and each time the ban was vetoed by President Clinton. Although the House voted to override the vetoes, the Senate failed to do so.

Partial-birth abortion is a procedure in which a baby is partially delivered, is killed by having its skull punctured, has its brain vacuumed out, and is then extracted from the birth canal. The procedure is typically performed after the baby can survive outside of the womb. The procedure is generally considered unethical and has been declared to be medically unnecessary by the American Medical Association.

Congressman Steve Chabot (R, OH) introduced the current legislation Wednesday. Congressman Todd Akin, a co-sponsor of the legislation issued this statement:

“The partial-birth abortion procedure is a brutal murder of an innocent child shortly before its birth. Reasonable people agree that it is unethical, immoral and wrong, but it is not yet illegal.

“I am confident that the bill will be passed by the U.S. House of Representatives. If passed by Congress, I am confident the President will sign it.

“It is important that the Senate leadership does not hijack this important legislation. To do so would be a egregious injustice and the most cynical form of partisanship.”