March 13, 2002

House Eases Immigration Law

On March 13, Congressman Todd Akin voted against the reinstatement of 245I of the INA that will allow illegal aliens to seek legal residency in the United States. The suspension required a 2/3 vote to pass. The total was 275 Yeas and 137 nays therefore passing by a 1-vote margin.

“To grant amnesty to those who have violated our immigration laws encourages more illegal immigration and is a threat to our national security,” stated Congressman Akin who opposed the measure. “Immigration has been a major topic of debate for years, after the acts of September 11 that debate has taken on an even greater urgency. We need reform of the INS a renewed commitment to enforce our laws that govern the granting of visas. It is irresponsible to take an action that penalizes those people who respect our laws and are trying to legally immigrate.”