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House Defense Authorization Includes Over $6 Billion for Boeing's Super Hornet and C-17

WASHINGTON, D.C.- Tonight, the House Armed Service Committee is expected to pass the Defense Authorization for FY 2002. Included is an authorization of 48 F/A-18E/F Navy Super Hornets and 15 Air Force C-17 transports and 6 Navy T-45 "Goshawk" jet trainers.

"We've accomplished a great deal in this year's defense bill," said Representative Todd Akin and member of the House Armed Services Committee. "The F-18 Super Hornet, when it deploys aboard the USS Abraham next summer, will become the Navy's frontline fighter for years to come."

"The additional C-17 transports we're procuring will greatly improve our strategic mobility, while the additional T-45 Goshawk jet trainers will enhance the Navy's pilot training program," stated Akin. "These programs are a plus for the St. Louis economy and for our armed forces."