

March 12, 2010

WASHINGTON, DC - Today Congressman Todd Akin (R-MO) applauded the ruling of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upholding the constitutionality of the phrase “under God” in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Congressman Akin has led the fight to protect this phrase since the 9th Circuit initially struck it down in 2002. Akin introduced the Pledge Protection Act in 2002, and it was passed by the House twice, most recently in 2006.

After today’s decision in *Newdow v. Rio Linda Union School District*, Akin released the following statement:

“I applaud the court for making the correct decision in upholding the constitutionality of the phrase ‘under God.’

“This ruling is a victory for those of us who have been fighting to protect our nation’s cultural heritage from judicial activism.

“Our Founding Fathers understood that our nation exists by the grace of God. Our own Declaration of Independence states that people ‘are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights.’

“Referencing God in our pledge and in our national motto acknowledges and celebrates this distinguished heritage.”