Washington, DC - Congressman W. Todd Akin, Chairman of the Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee, released the following statement on the Obama Administration's decision to remove all military forces from Iraq by the end of 2011:

"The courage and professionalism of our men and women in uniform carried the day in Iraq with the toppling of a much despised dictator. Those returning from service in Iraq can be proud in accomplishing a most difficult task and answering the call of duty and service to our nation.

"Regarding the decision by the administration for a hard and fast deadline for the complete withdrawal, I remain concerned that the Iraqis may still lack the ability to maintain their security and territorial integrity. Given concerns regarding Iran's interest in the region, it is my sincere hope that the current Administration is circumspect and cautious not to undo what took nearly a decade to accomplish."

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