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King Statement on Seventh Anniversary of September 11th

Washington, D.C. (Thursday, September 11, 2008) – Today, U.S. Rep. Peter T. King (R-NY), Ranking Member of the Committee on Homeland Security, released the following statement on the seven-year anniversary of the September 11th terrorist attacks against our country:

"Today, in New York City, Washington, D.C., Shanksville, Pennsylvania, and cities and towns across America, we pause and reflect how seven years ago our world changed forever. Some of us will gather together to remember, others will reflect alone, but each of us, in our own way, will remember.

"Today we will mourn the loss of the innocent men and women who were killed, celebrate the survivors who are still with us today, and honor the first responders who rushed into burning buildings and risked their own lives so that others may live. Few of us thought that we would go seven years without another attack, but thanks to the sacrifices of the brave men and women of our Armed Forces as well as the dedicated efforts of our law enforcement, homeland security, and intelligence agencies, we have thwarted a number of attacks and our citizens have remained safe from harm.

"Yet for too many in this country, the searing memory of seven years ago has faded into the background. Some now view the protection of our country through partisan eyes and forget how it felt to see the Twin Towers collapse, watch the Pentagon burn, or see the scorched Pennsylvania field where so many lost their lives. But we must remember that our enemies will not fade into the background—al Qaeda and other radical Islamist groups are united in their goal to attack America and the West. In the face of this terror, we must remain united at home, not divided by political parties, but united as Americans. We will never forget the lessons of September 11th. As a nation, as a government, and as a Congress, we must continue to work together to protect this country and its people from those who wish to do us harm. We cannot rest until our enemy is defeated and the Global War on Terror is won."