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## **Inglis praises benchmarks as path to accountability**

by REGAN E. DOHERTY

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WASHINGTON—Rep. Bob Inglis hailed the benchmarks of progress set for the Iraqi government in the Iraq supplemental bill passed by Congress Thursday as a major step forward to accountability and stability in Iraq.

Inglis, R-Travelers' Rest, said he is pleased to see the expectations for success being shouldered by the Iraqi government, not merely U.S. military leaders and their troops.

"The American people deserve to know that the commitment of our sons and daughters is being matched by the Iraqis' commitment to establishing a credible federal government," Inglis said. "This is a clear step toward accountability and it's without the misstep of a timetable for withdrawal."

Inglis said that the approved bill, with benchmarks, offers clear rewards for success and consequences for failure.

"Now, if the Iraq government does not make progress, they know that they could lose our help on some reconstruction projects," Inglis said. "The steps necessary for a credible government have been apparent for some time. Now the Iraqi Parliament is on notice to proceed without delay."

Inglis stressed the importance of civilian leadership in defining the way forward in Iraq. "We know that our troops will do whatever we ask of them," he said. "They're counting on us as civilian leaders to define their mission clearly and to articulate our expectations of the Iraqi leadership. Accountability works."

Sens. Lindsey Graham and Jim DeMint also voted in favor of the bill.