

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

## **CHAIRMAN RUSS CARNAHAN EXPLORES LESSONS FROM IRAQ RECONSTRUCTION TO APPLY IN FUTURE EFFORTS**

### ***Lessons Learned Can Be Applied to Future Reconstruction Efforts***

**SUBCOMMITTEE HEARING WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24 AT 9:30 A.M. ET**

(WASHINGTON, DC) – Congressman Russ Carnahan will hold his first hearing as the new Chairman of a key House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee, investigating how we can apply lessons learned from Iraq to ensure stricter oversight and effective management of taxpayer funds in future reconstruction efforts.

Carnahan, who last month was named Chairman of the Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight, will hear testimony about waste and fraud in the Iraq Reconstruction. Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction Stuart W. Bowen, Jr., will be testifying. In the past Bowen's findings have led to a number of indictments and convictions for wrongdoing.

**“Every day, there are brave American men and women putting their lives on the line in Iraq and Afghanistan,”** Carnahan said. **“We have a responsibility to them and to the taxpayers of this country to make sure that we have a strict accounting of how resources are being spent. We demanded it during the last administration, and it is only proper to do so now.”**

Carnahan has consistently called for more rigorous accounting of American operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, calling it a patriotic duty that dates back to 1941, when then-Senator Harry S Truman of Missouri launched a Senate committee to look into how World War II resources were being spent.