Contact: Matt Lloyd

PENCE HAILS PASSAGE OF UNBORN VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE ACT AS A VICTORY FOR JUSTICE

Washington, Feb 26, 2004 - WASHINGTON, DC - Congressman Mike Pence called today's expected passage of the Unborn Victims of Violence Act a victory for justice in America. Speaking on the House floor during debate over the bill, Pence gave the following remarks:

"This is not a debate about life; about the most contentious issue of our time and our culture. This is about justice, this is about compassion, and this is about this Congress standing for what justice demands."

Under current federal law, an individual who commits a federal crime of violence against a pregnant woman receives no additional punishment for killing or injuring the woman's unborn child during the commission of the crime.

The Unborn Victims of Violence Act would provide that an individual who injures or kills an unborn child during the commission of one of nearly seventy specified federal crimes against the mother would be guilty of a separate offense against the unborn child. This legislation would help deter such heinous acts of violence against women and unborn children.

###