WASHINGTON, DC - U.S. Congressman Mike Pence issued the following statement today honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.:

"It is altogether fitting that as a nation we should honor the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. More than 40 years after his death, the words of Dr. King continue to inspire countless Americans. It my hope that as Americans we continue to strive towards Dr. King's vision of equality of opportunity and freedom not only here at home, but around the world.

"As he once said, 'Now is the time to make real the promises of democracy.' We must remember the many people around the world who continue in their struggle to achieve racial equality as well as political and religious liberties. Let us stand by them as they fight to secure the blessings of human freedom, and work to ensure that every American and child of God enjoys the rights that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. fought so very hard to advance."