

1 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING TO CONSIDER THE COMMITTEE  
2 BUDGET AND ORGANIZATION  
3 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2009  
4 U.S. Senate,  
5 Committee on Finance,  
6 Washington, DC.

7 The meeting was convened, pursuant to notice, at  
8 10:30 a.m., in room 215, Dirksen Senate Office Building,  
9 Hon. Max Baucus (chairman of the committee) presiding.

10 Present: Senators Rockefeller, Conrad, Wyden,  
11 Schumer, Stabenow, Cantwell, Nelson, Carper, Grassley,  
12 Hatch, Snowe, Crapo, Roberts, Ensign, and Enzi.

13 Also present: Democratic Staff: Bill Dauster, Deputy  
14 Staff Director and General Counsel; Elizabeth Fowler,  
15 Senior Counsel to the Chairman and Chief Health Counsel;  
16 Alan Cohen, Senior Budget Analyst; Shawn Bishop,  
17 Professional Staff Member; Chris Dawe, Professional Staff  
18 Member; Senior Budget Analyst; Lauren Bishop, Intern.  
19 Republican Staff: Kolan Davis, Staff Director and Chief  
20 Counsel; Mark Prater, Deputy Chief of Staff and Chief Tax  
21 Counsel; and Mark Hayes, Republican Health Policy  
22 Director and Chief Tax Counsel.

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1 OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. MAX BAUCUS, A U.S. SENATOR FROM  
2 MONTANA, CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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4 The Chairman. A quorum is present. I thank all my  
5 colleagues for coming today to attend the hearing.

6 Before we proceed further, we have a little bit of  
7 business to conduct, and that includes organizing for the  
8 111th Congress. More specifically: to authorize the  
9 committee budget, assign Senators to their subcommittees,  
10 and to designate Senators to serve on several panels  
11 whose members are drawn from members of the Finance  
12 Committee. All Senators should have a copy of the  
13 committee budget and materials are before them.

14 I now entertain a motion to adopt the organization.  
15 Senator Rockefeller. So moved.

16 The Chairman. The Senator from West Virginia  
17 moves.

18 Is there any debate?

19 [No response].

20 The Chairman. Without any further debate, then the  
21 committee budget is ordered report.

22 The next order of business is to assign Senators to  
23 subcommittees of this committee. There is a list of  
24 Senators on each subcommittee. You should be aware of  
25 the assignments. I would entertain a motion now with

1 respect to those assignments.

2 Senator Conrad. So moved.

3 The Chairman. It is moved by the Senator from  
4 North Dakota.

5 Without any further debate, it will be so ordered.

6 [No response].

7 The Chairman. The next order of business is to  
8 designate Finance Committee members on the Joint  
9 Committee on Taxation, on the congressional oversight  
10 group and as congressional trade advisors on trade policy  
11 and negotiations.

12 By tradition, the committee designates its most  
13 senior five Senators to fill these roles, and that is the  
14 designation proposed in the papers before the members.

15 I would entertain a motion to adopt that  
16 designation.

17 Senator Grassley. So moved.

18 The Chairman. It has been moved by the Senator  
19 from Iowa.

20 Without further debate, that is agreed to.

21 [No response].

22 The Chairman. Finally, Senator Grassley and I  
23 would like to hold a meeting of this committee next week  
24 to discuss the committee's schedule to consider health  
25 care reform. Following our tradition, we would like the

1 committee to meet in closed session to facilitate frank  
2 and forthcoming discussion.

3 I will now entertain a motion, pursuant to Senate  
4 Rule 26, Paragraph 5, to close that meeting.

5 Senator Grassley. I so moved.

6 The Chairman. Without objection, the meeting will  
7 be closed.

8 [No response].

9 The Chairman. Right. All right. Thank you.

10 [Whereupon, at 10:38 a.m. the meeting was  
11 concluded.]

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STATEMENT OF:

THE HONORABLE MAX BAUCUS  
A United States Senator  
from the State of Montana

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