

1 FINANCING COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CARE REFORM; AND EXECUTIVE
2 COMMITTEE MEETING TO CONSIDER THE NOMINATION OF NEAL
3 WOLIN, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
4 TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2009
5 U.S. Senate,
6 Committee on Finance,
7 Washington, DC.

8 The roundtable was convened, pursuant to notice, at
9 10:06 a.m., in room 106, Dirksen Senate Office Building,
10 Hon. Max Baucus (chairman of the committee) presiding.

11 Present: Senators Conrad, Bingaman, Lincoln, Wyden,
12 Schumer, Stabenow, Cantwell, Nelson, Carper, Grassley,
13 Hatch, Snowe, Kyl, Bunning, Crapo, Enzi, and Cornyn.

14 Also present: Democratic Staff: Russ Sullivan, Staff
15 Director; Bill Dauster, Deputy Staff Director and General
16 Counsel; Elizabeth Fowler, Senior Counsel to the Chairman
17 and Chief Health Counsel; Cathy Koch, Chief Tax Counsel.
18 Republican Staff: Kolan Davis, Staff Director and Chief
19 Counsel; Mark Hayes, Republican Health Policy Director
20 and Chief Health Counsel; Joshua LeVasseur, Deputy Chief
21 Clerk and Historian; and Athena Schritz, Archivist.

22 A panel consisting of: Stuart H. Altman, Ph.D., Sol
23 C. Chaikin Professor of National Health Policy, Heller
24 School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis
25 University, Waltham, MA; Joseph R. Antos, Ph.D., Wilson
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1 H. Taylor Scholar in Health Care and Retirement Policy,
2 American Enterprise Institute, Washington, DC; Katherine
3 Baicker, Ph.D., Professor of Health Economics, Harvard
4 School of Public Health, Cambridge, MA; Leonard Burman,
5 Ph.D., Director, Tax Policy Center, Urban Institute,
6 Washington, DC; Robert Greenstein, Ph.D., Executive
7 Director, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities,
8 Washington, DC; Jonathan Gruber, Ph.D., Professor of
9 Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology,
10 Cambridge, MA; Michael F. Jacobson, Ph.D., Executive
11 Director, The Center for Science in the Public Interest,
12 Washington, DC; James A. Klein, President, American
13 Benefits Council, Washington, DC; Edward Kleinbard, Chief
14 of Staff, Joint Committee on Taxation, Washington, DC;
15 Gerald M. Shea, Assistant to the President for
16 Governmental Affairs, AFL-CIO, Washington, DC; John
17 Sheils, Senior Vice President, The Lewin Group, Falls
18 Church, VA; Gail Wilensky, Ph.D., Senior Fellow, Project
19 HOPE, Bethesda, MD; Steven Wojcik, Vice President of
20 Public Policy, National Business Group on Health,
21 Washington, DC.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

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[10:25 a.m.]

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The Chairman. A quorum is now present. I thank my colleagues for their attendance. We will now interrupt the roundtable for a couple of pieces of committee business.

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First, before the committee is the nomination of Neal Wolin to be Deputy Secretary of Treasury. I apologize to our panelists here; this is the only way we can get business done, is when we have a quorum. We happen to have a quorum, so, man, oh, man, I am taking advantage of it.

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Senator Grassley. I so move.

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The Chairman. I will entertain a motion to report the nomination. Senator Grassley so moves. If there is no further debate, all those in favor say "aye".

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[A Chorus of Ayes].

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The Chairman. Those opposed, no.

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[No response].

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The Chairman. The ayes have it, and the nomination is ordered reported.

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One further piece of business. As previously discussed, Senator Grassley and I would like the committee to hold closed meetings May 14, May 20, and

1 June 4 to walk through health care reform policy options.
2 So I will now entertain a motion, pursuant to Senate Rule
3 26, Paragraph 5, to close those meetings.

4 Senator Grassley. I move.

5 The Chairman. If there is no further debate, then
6 without objection, the meetings May 14, May 20, and June
7 4 will be closed. I thank all Senators.

8 [No objection].

9 [Whereupon, at 10:27 a.m., the Executive Session was
10 concluded.]

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