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**BAUCUS HAILS WTO DECISION ON AUTO PARTS**  
*Finance Chairman Stresses Need For Vigorous Trade Enforcement*

*Washington, DC* – Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-Mont) today welcomed a World Trade Organization (WTO) dispute panel’s initial finding that Chinese auto parts import policies violate WTO rules. The panel found that the Chinese policies discriminate against imported auto parts – from the U.S., for instance – and unfairly favor Chinese auto parts suppliers.

**“Vigorous enforcement is the linchpin of our trading system. When we enforce WTO rules, markets open and our workers prosper,”** said Baucus. **“This decision is a victory for open markets and American workers.”**

The auto parts dispute was brought to the WTO by the United States, the European Communities, and Canada in 2006. The three parties contended that China’s taxes on imported auto parts discourage automobile manufacturers in China from using imported auto parts in the assembly of vehicles. These regulations discriminate against imported auto parts in favor of Chinese-manufactured parts. A final panel decision is expected in March, after which China may appeal or comply with the decision.

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