



For Immediate Release
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FINANCE PANEL APPROVES MONTANA'S ED ECK TO IRS OVERSIGHT BOARD

*Full Senate vote is next step; Finance Chairman Baucus urged nomination
of law school dean*

Washington, DC – Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-Mont.) and Committee members today approved for Senate consideration the nomination of E. Edwin Eck II, Dean of the University of Montana School of Law, to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Oversight Board. The Committee approved the nomination by a voice vote during an open executive session. Eck was raised in Lewistown, Mont., graduated from Carleton College, then went on to obtain a law degree from the University of Montana and an LL.M. in taxation from Georgetown University. He began teaching at UM in 1981 and was appointed Dean in 1995. Baucus, who helped create the IRS Oversight Board in 1998, encouraged the Montana law and tax expert's nomination to the panel.

“Dean Eck brings with him 30 years of experience with the tax laws, as a practitioner, as an Assistant U.S. Attorney, and as a professor at the University of Montana. The IRS will undoubtedly be better agency with Dean Eck’s oversight,” said Baucus. **“I’m so pleased to have an expert like Ed serving the interests of Montanans and all Americans at the IRS. I know he’ll do an outstanding job.”**

Dean Eck has established himself as an expert in estate and charitable tax law and has worked to create a joint JD/MBA program and new certifications in environmental law and dispute resolution at UM. In addition, he established an initiative that allows law faculty to present programs around the state, reaching out to Montana’s most rural areas.

The IRS Oversight Board consists of nine members chosen without regard to party and assigned the task of supervising the IRS’s execution and application of the internal revenue laws. The Secretary of the Treasury and the Commissioner of Internal Revenue serve on the Board, and the remaining seven members are appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. Each Presidential appointee serves a five-year term. The nominations are considered by the Senate Finance Committee.

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