



For Immediate Release
June 27, 2008

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BAUCUS STATEMENT ON MEDICARE VOTE

Washington, DC – Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-Mont.) issued a brief statement today following the Senate’s failure Thursday night to invoke cloture on H.R. 6331, the House-passed version of the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act. The bill, which passed in the House on Tuesday with a vote of 355-59, would have provided \$4 billion in improvements to the Medicare program for 44 million American seniors, and would have blocked a 10.6 percent cut in reimbursement to seniors’ doctors that will now take effect on July 1.

“Senators who voted against the Medicare bill last night just voted wrong. This bill was bipartisan, with huge support in the House, and its failure in the Senate jeopardizes seniors’ access to medical care, plain and simple,” said Baucus. **“I will keep calling on Congress to stand up for seniors, and I’ll keep fighting for all these good policies for seniors in the coming weeks. I expect that all Senators will be urged by their constituents during this recess to do the right thing on Medicare.”**

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