



# Committee On Finance

Max Baucus, Ranking Member

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## NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release  
Monday, December 15, 2003

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### **Baucus Officially Announces Finance Committee Staff Changes New Staff Director, Deputy Staff Director and Chief Tax Counsel Chosen**

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) U.S. Senator Max Baucus has announced three promotions within the Senate Finance Committee. Russ Sullivan has been appointed as Democratic Staff Director, Bill Dauster as Deputy Staff Director, and Patrick Heck has been named to the position of Chief Tax Counsel.

"I am pleased to announce these significant promotions," Baucus said. "We've put together a top-notch, incredibly knowledgeable Finance Committee team. Russ, Bill and Pat all bring a wealth of experience and leadership to their new positions. I can't imagine better people to lead us into the second session of the 108<sup>th</sup> Congress."

Since 1999, Russ Sullivan has served as Democratic Chief Tax Counsel for the Senate Finance Committee. From 2001-2003, he served under Finance Committee Ranking Member Baucus and from 1999-2000, he served under Senator Pat Moynihan. Prior to that, Russ was Tax Counsel and Legislative Director for Senator Bob Graham from 1995-1999.

Before working on Capitol Hill, Russ worked as a tax attorney at the law firm of Vinson & Elkins. He holds an accounting degree from Baylor University and a law degree from the University of Texas. In addition to his significant Finance Committee responsibilities, Russ mentors teenagers in the Washington area and provides foster care for troubled juveniles.

Bill Dauster joined the Finance Committee last April as Democratic General Counsel. He has worked in Washington, D.C. since 1986, holding a number of positions including Chief Counsel and Democratic Chief of Staff on the Senate Budget Committee. Bill has also served as Democratic Chief of Staff for the Senate Labor Committee and Deputy Assistant to the President for Economic Policy under the Clinton Administration. Immediately prior to joining the Finance Committee last April, Bill served as Legislative Director for Senator Russ Feingold.

Patrick Heck has been with the Senate Finance Committee since 2000. Prior to his promotion to Democratic Chief Tax Counsel, Pat served as Chief Investigative Counsel on the committee. He now holds both roles on the committee.

Pat has worked on a range of issues for the committee, including legislation relating to tax exempt organizations and Federal excise taxes. He coordinated the committee's investigation into Enron and the problem of abusive tax avoidance transactions.

Prior to joining the Finance Committee, Pat was a Senior Manager with the Federal Legislative Services Group at Ernst & Young, LLP from 1995 -2000. From 1995-1998, Pat worked for the U.S. House of Representative as Assistant Counsel for the House Ways and

Means Subcommittee on Oversight, chaired by Rep. J. J. (Jake) Pickle. Pat has also worked at the Internal Revenue Service, as a Trial Attorney with the Tax Shelter Branch at the IRS Office of Chief Counsel from 1985 - 1988 and as a Tax Law Specialist with IRS's Employee Plans and Exempt Organizations division from 1983 - 1985.

He received degrees in political science and economics from The American University in Washington, D.C.; his J.D. degree from the University of Toledo College of Law; and LLM in Taxation from Georgetown University Law Center.

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