



FOR PLANNING PURPOSES  
Monday, November 17, 2008

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**\*\*\*MEDIA ADVISORY\*\*\***

**WEDNESDAY HEARING: FINANCE PANEL TO EXAMINE  
NEED FOR HEALTH REFORM DURING ECONOMIC CRISIS**

*Hearing at 10:00 a.m. will look at health care's role in the American economy,  
consequences of action or inaction on reform*

*Washington, DC* – Senate Finance Committee Chairman **Max Baucus** (D-Mont.) will convene a hearing on Wednesday on the need to include health reform as part of any plan for America's economic recovery. The hearing, entitled, "Health Care Reform: An Economic Perspective," will take place at **10:00 a.m.** on **Wednesday, November 19**, in **Room 215** of the **Dirksen Senate Office Building**. With the economy dominating public attention and many Americans feeling increased financial strain, some have asked whether the time is right for health care reform. Witnesses will discuss the role that health care plays in the economy.

Witnesses at Wednesday's hearing will include Ivan G. Seidenberg, Chairman and CEO of Verizon Communications, Andy Stern, President of the Service Employees International Union, Uwe E. Reinhardt, Ph.D., the James Madison Professor of Political Economy at Princeton University, and Amitabh Chandra, an Assistant Professor of Public Policy at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.

Wednesday's hearing is the tenth in the Finance Committee's year-long series to prepare the panel for health reform in 2009. On November 12, Baucus released his own plan, "A Call to Action," providing a detailed outline for health reform.

**WHO:** Senate Finance Committee  
U.S. Senator Max Baucus (D-Mont.), Chairman

**WHAT:** Hearing on health care and the economy

**WHERE:** Senate Dirksen Office Building 215  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**WHEN:** Wednesday November 19, 2008  
10:00 a.m.

Media are encouraged to attend the hearing or to view the webcast and witness testimony at <http://finance.senate.gov/sitepages/hearings.htm>.

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