



Committee On Finance

Max Baucus, Ranking Member

NEWS RELEASE

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Baucus Urges Action to See that Criminals Pay Their Dues

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) U.S. Senator Max Baucus released the following statement today in response to a report issued by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, which found that existing procedures within divisions of the Internal Revenue Service did not effectively ensure that convicted criminals comply with the conditional terms of their sentences, including the settlement of their IRS tax liabilities. The full report, "Courts are Not Always Notified When Criminals Fail to Comply with Their Sentences to Settle Civil Tax Liabilities," is attached.

Sen. Baucus:

"To say that it looks like the IRS is dropping the ball in these cases would be an understatement. The failure to ensure that convicted criminals comply with the terms of their sentences, which includes filing and paying any taxes due, could seriously erode the public's confidence in the justice system, as well as cost the country millions of dollars in lost revenue.

"We've caught the criminal, prosecuted the crime and handed out the sentence -- seeing that the sentence is enforced should be the easiest part of the whole process. The government must take immediate action to ensure that convicted criminals complete their sentences by paying all taxes due to the country."

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