## **MEMORANDUM**

To: Reporters and Editors

From: The Communications Office of Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-Mont.)

Re: Baucus comment on the proposed consumer operated and oriented plans regulation

Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-Mont.) commented today on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services proposed rules for Consumer Operated and Oriented Plans (CO-OPs), which are private, nonprofit health insurance providers governed by their members. The CO-OP program was created by the Affordable Care Act, of which Chairman Baucus was a chief architect in the Senate. From Chairman Baucus:

"Thanks to this proposal, new CO-OPs have the flexibility to give customers the best possible value on the plan that's right for them. CO-OPs empower consumers and spark competition, and that means more options and higher savings for millions of people in Montana and across the country as they shop for insurance. This is yet another example of the new health reform law putting individuals and small businesses in charge of their care, improving the insurance market, and increasing affordable and quality insurance options."

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