

MEMORANDUM

To: Reporters and Editors

From: Scott Mulhauser and Erin Shields for Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-Mont.)

Re: Baucus comment on new report showing \$2.5 billion in Medicare payments recovered

Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-Mont.) commented today on a report released by the Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control Program, a program within the Department of Health and Human Services that funds efforts to prevent health care fraud, waste and abuse, including prevention, audits and investigations. The program's report indicated that \$2.5 billion in Medicare overpayments were recovered in 2009 and can be returned to the Medicare trust funds. From Chairman Baucus:

"The recovery of billions in Medicare overpayments just last year shows just how much the Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control Program is doing to recover taxpayers' money. The effort announced today recovered \$2.5 billion dollars, and that's why we made sure the health care reform law included new tools to fight waste and fraud in Medicare and Medicaid and an additional \$300 million over the next decade in new funds to help this program and other critical efforts to tackle fraud, waste and abuse."

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