



For Immediate Release
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**BAUCUS HAILS CONFIRMATION OF RON KIRK
AS UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE**
Senate Shows Strong Support for Top Trade Official

Washington, DC – Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-Mont.) today lauded the Senate’s confirmation, by a vote of 92-5, of Mayor Ron Kirk to be United States Trade Representative. As President Obama’s top international trade official, Kirk will be responsible for opening new markets for American products and enforcing international trade rules at home and abroad.

“Today, the Senate showed its strong support for Mayor Kirk,” said Baucus. **“He is the right person to steer our trade agenda through these troubled times. He will work to rebuild America’s faith in the benefits of international trade, and he will help guide America to speedy economic recovery by opening markets to U.S. products. I look forward to working with Ambassador Kirk to accomplish these goals.”**

The Senate Finance Committee, which has sole jurisdiction over international trade, held Mayor Kirk’s confirmation hearing on March 10, 2009, and ordered his nomination favorably reported out of Committee on March 12.

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