

FOR PLANNING PURPOSES
September 14, 2011

Contact: Communications Office
(202) 224-4515

MEDIA ADVISORY

BAUCUS TO DISCUSS PROGRESS IMPROVING CARE
FOR PEOPLE ENROLLED IN BOTH MEDICARE, MEDICAID

Washington, DC – Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-Mont.) will convene a hearing on Wednesday with Melanie Bella, Director of the Medicare-Medicaid Coordination Office, to discuss the progress improving the quality and reducing the costs of health care for individuals enrolled in both Medicare and Medicaid. The hearing, titled “Dually-Eligible Beneficiaries: Improving Care While Lowering Costs” will take place at 10:00 a.m. on **Wednesday, September 21**, in Room 215 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

As a principal architect of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), Baucus helped create the Medicare-Medicaid Coordination Office, which works to enhance coordination between Medicare and Medicaid. Prior to the ACA’s enactment, a lack of coordination between the two created inefficiency and contributed to the high cost of care associated with people enrolled in both programs, commonly known as dually-eligible beneficiaries. Since its formation, the new office has begun simplifying access to care, eliminating regulatory conflicts between Medicare and Medicaid and helping provide patients with seamless care. Baucus and Director Bella will discuss the progress being made on those issues and how the office will proceed.

- Who: Senate Finance Committee
U.S. Senator Max Baucus (D-Mont.), Chairman
- What: Hearing on improvements, cost reductions in health care for dually-eligible beneficiaries
- Where: Dirksen Senate Office Building 215
Washington, D.C. 20510
- When: Wednesday, September 21, 2011
10:00 a.m.

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