

2-15-1984

Campaign Announcement Statement (2)

Max S. Baucus

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Senator * or Department*: **BAUCUS**

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MONTH/YEAR of Records*: **February-1984**

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(1) Subject*: **Federal Issues**

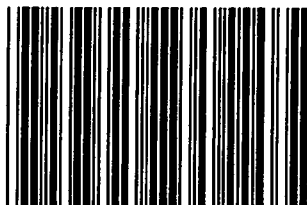
(select subject from controlled vocabulary, if your office has one)

(2) Subject* **Baucus Announces Candidacy for Re-Election**

DOCUMENT DATE*: **02/15/1984**

(Example: 01/12/1966)

* "required information"



BAUCUS

Max's Final
Announcement
Statement.

IMMEDIATE
February 15, 1984

BAUCUS ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY FOR RE-ELECTION

HELENA -- Montana Senator Max Baucus today announced he is a candidate for re-election to the U.S. Senate.

Baucus, 42, outlined his campaign platform at a news conference in the state capitol: "I'm running on my solid record of fighting for Montana. But, more importantly, I'm running on my commitment to take on the challenges of government, not to brush them aside."

"I'm running on my commitment to lead us away from partisan rhetoric," Baucus said. "I'm running on my commitment to find constructive solutions to the problems that face us."

"The challenges we face are great, and the people of Montana deserve so much," Baucus said. "I am up for that challenge and I am looking forward to it."

Following is Baucus' announcement statement:

ANNOUNCEMENT STATEMENT OF SENATOR MAX BAUCUS

I am today announcing my candidacy for election to the United States Senate. I do so with profound love for our state, with deep pride in our land and our people, and with an urgent desire to address the deep looming problems facing our state and nation.

Today, February 15, 1984, many of us in Montana feel our lives are going along fairly well. Yet, for some Montana families it's not going well at all because of

problems such as high unemployment, high cost of health care, or low prices for grain and beef. It's mixed. It's spotty. Yet, all of us are hopeful about the future.

There are, however, two large looming clouds on the horizon which I believe deserve our critical and immediate attention. Problems which do not immediately affect us, but problems which are severe, and which, if left unattended will exact a heavy price from us in the future.

The first is federal budget deficits. Our total national debt today is about \$1.4 trillion. If the present rate of \$200 billion annual additional deficits continue, our total national debt will double to \$2.8 trillion by the end of this decade. That drives up interest rates, forcing more bankruptcies, putting more people out of work, wrecking our forest products industry, and generally driving us into a severe recession.

Our country has never seen deficits this large. We have never seen a threat to our economy so severe. It's effects are not yet felt. But if we don't take immediate steps to cut those deficits, their adverse effects in a year from now will be severe. We'll wish we had acted sooner.

The second challenge facing us in Montana is international trade. Whether we like it or not, Montana and our nation are caught up in and are a part of dramatic changes in international trade.

Most of our wheat is exported. Yet during the last few years, American agricultural exports lost out to other countries which heavily subsidize their production and exports. We can't sell our

beef overseas because Japan sets up stiff quotas. Our lumber industry suffers from subsidized competition. Fully 70% of all products produced in America are in international competition-- competition with countries which have declared economic war on the United States.

We must meet that challenge. We must stand tall and protect ourselves. And, we must work together more imaginatively to outproduce, outsell, and outexport our foreign competitors.

There are other challenges, too: Rising health care costs that particularly hurt the elderly; maintaining clean air and clean water in our state; and finding some way to realistically slow down the arms race. They all demand our continued attention.

All these challenges are great. In fact, they are so great, they challenge our future and our children's future. We must put our values of family life and well-being above politics. We can no longer afford the luxury of partisan finger-pointing or name calling. These problems are too severe.

Instead, we need to work together. Both political parties. All of us as Montanans and Americans. We should encourage constructive discussion of solutions. But we should discourage partisan game-playing.

During the last few years we've made progress. I'm proud of my efforts in the Senate to forge a bi-partisan deficit reduction package. We are making significant progress in opening up more foreign markets for our agricultural exports. And, I've passed legislation protecting rural hospitals and the elderly from rising health care costs.

Nevertheless, this is only the beginning. With continued experience and seniority, I look forward with relish and enthusiasm to tackling the task ahead.

Thank you.