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Campaign Announcement Statement (3)

Max S. Baucus

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Senator * or Department*: **BAUCUS**

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Record Type*: **Speeches & Remarks**

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

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

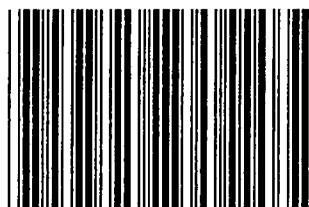
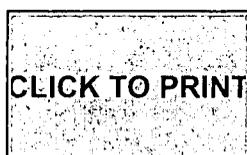
(select subject from controlled vocabulary, if your office has one)

(2) Subject* **Annoucement Statement: Deficits Trade, Health Care**

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

(Example: 01/12/1966)

* "required information"



BAUCUS

ANNOUNCEMENT STATEMENT OF SENATOR MAX BAUCUS

Helena, Montana

February 15, 1984

When I think about America today, I think we're doing pretty well. But I also see two trends that trouble me.

First, we've postponed dealing with some mighty tough problems.

Like budget deficits.

Like our ability to compete for international trade.

And like the impending bankruptcy of our Medicare program.

Second, we're polarized. Our political leaders are bogged down by partisan bickering. As a result, we aren't working together to confront our problems.

For me, this frames the real issue for the 1984 elections. That issue is whether we can overcome partisan bickering and work together. To confront our problems. And to solve them.

The issue is whether we will have leaders who are willing to tackle the serious challenges America and Montana face.

DEFICITS

Our greatest challenge is getting the federal budget deficit under control.

That deficit stands in the way of a sound recovery.

It stands in the way of lower interest rates.

It stands in the way of more competitive exports.

It stands in the way of more jobs.

I am proud of my efforts in the Senate Finance Committee to enact a bi-partisan deficit reduction package.

I will continue those efforts, starting next week when the Committee reconvenes to consider its package.

That's what Montanans want.

They're tired of political gamesmanship.

They want political leadership that offers constructive solutions.

That's the kind of leadership I will continue to provide.

TRADE

While we tackle these problems at home, we also face challenges abroad.

We must work aggressively to find new markets for Montana products.

And we must fight aggressively to tear down trade barriers that block those markets.

I am particularly proud of my efforts to convince the Japanese to remove their restrictions on beef imports.

I am hopeful we can reach a new agreement with them by March

31.

But more remains to be done.

Japanese also have restrictions on timber imports. I plan to launch a similar campaign against those trade barriers.

We in Montana are free traders. But we must not sit still while our trading partners run roughshod over us.

HEALTH CARE

Finally, we face a special challenge in meeting the health needs of Montana's elderly.

I am proud of my record on health care.

- o I have authored a series of provisions which protect rural hospitals.
- o I wrote the Medigap law to protect senior citizens.
- o I sponsored a series of amendments to limit increases in out-of-pocket expenses for the elderly.

But the real challenge we face is ahead of us. It is putting Medicare on a sound financial footing -- and doing so in a way that's fair to our seniors.

The challenges I've discussed today aren't the only ones facing Montanans. Arms control and environmental protection are two other areas that require our special attention.

THE RECORD

1984 is an appropriate time to look forward. It is also appropriate for us to look back and examine the record.

I have fought hard for Montana.

- o I fought for Montana agriculture.

Those efforts brought \$400,000 in new money to the Sidney Research Station and Montana State University.

- o I fought for Montana's fair share of federal dollars.

The Congress adopted my proposal to create and fund the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation.

- o I fought for increased trade with our neighbor, Canada.

The Senate adopted my amendment to eliminate a border fee proposal that would have taxed everyone crossing the American-Canadian border.

- o I have worked hard to expand the mission at Malmstrom Air Force Base. After travelling to Omaha earlier this week I am confident that Malmstrom's role will be expanded.

- o I have led the fight against proposals to eliminate Montana's coal severance tax.

I threatened to filibuster those bills, and they are now stalled in Committee.

- o I fought budget cuts that would be unfair to Montana.

Those efforts kept the Research Lab in Hamilton, the

Fish Hatchery in Ennis, and the MHD facility in Butte all open.

- o I fought bureaucratic errors that would have hurt Montana.

My amendment reinstated \$3 million that was owed Montana, thereby keeping five Montana college from closing and five others from going in the red.

CONCLUSION

These accomplishments and others like them comprise a solid record to build upon.

Much has been done.

I'm proud of that.

But much more remains to be done.

I'm challenged by that.

For these reasons, I am today announcing my candidacy for U.S. Senate.

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 brush them aside.

I'm running on my commitment to lead us away from partisan

rhetoric.

I'm running on my commitment to find constructive solutions to the problems that face us.

Running for public office is a humbling experience.

The challenges we face are great.

And the people of Montana deserve so much.

I am up for that challenge. And I am looking forward to it.

Thank you.