

SENATE BUDGET COMMITTEE

KENT CONRAD, CHAIRMAN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 7, 2008

Contact: Stu Nagurka (202) 224-7436
Steve Posner (202) 224-7925

STATEMENT BY SENATE BUDGET COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN KENT CONRAD (D-ND) ON CBO MONTHLY BUDGET REVIEW

“Despite the Bush administration’s happy talk about the deficit getting better, CBO’s latest report suggests the deficit is getting bigger, not smaller. And with a weakening economy, we can expect further deterioration in the deficit.

“We now have to be concerned about the potential need for fiscal stimulus. The housing market is in serious trouble, the credit markets are shaky and the middle class is being pressured by dramatically higher energy prices and at the same time a shrinking job pool. Should Congress need to stimulate the economy in an effort to put us back on track for strong economic growth, we must do so in a fiscally responsible way – without exploding federal debt and worsening our long-term budget picture.”

###