

**B I O G R A P H Y**

**Introduction**

Senator Max Baucus has dedicated his life to serving the people of Montana. Born and raised in the Big Sky State, Max continually strives to make our state a better place to live, work, and raise a family.

After graduating from Stanford Law School, Max opened a law practice in Missoula in 1971. He then served as both Executive Director and Committee Coordinator for Montana's 1972 Constitutional Convention, which crafted what was considered one of the most farsighted state constitutions in the nation.

In 1973, Max was elected to the Montana State Legislature. He served as a state representative from Missoula until his election to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1974. He was re-elected in 1976. Max was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1978 and has served consecutively ever since.

## Committee Assignments that Matter To Montana

Senator Baucus currently serves as Chairman of the influential [U.S. Senate Finance Committee](#). Max has used this influential post to help cut taxes, protect Social Security and Medicare, expand health care programs, and open foreign markets to Montana's high quality products.

- \* Chairman, Subcommittee on International Trade
- \* Subcommittee on Long-Term Growth and Debt Reduction
- \* Subcommittee on Taxation and Oversight

In addition to his role on the Finance Committee, Max is a senior member of the [Senate Environment and Public Works Committee](#) – the panel that writes the federal highway program. As the most senior member of the EPW Committee, Max has helped secure more than \$1 billion for Montana's highways since 1998. Those dollars provide for safe and efficient commerce in Montana, and they create thousands of good-paying jobs on Main Streets across the state.

- \* Subcommittee on Transportation, Infrastructure, and Nuclear Safety
- \* Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Water
- \* Subcommittee on Superfund, Toxins, Risk, and Waste Management

Max is also a senior member of the [Senate Agriculture Committee](#), where he works to boost Montana's number one industry. As a senior member of the Agriculture Committee, Max helped write the 2002 farm bill, pass mandatory country-of-origin labeling, and provide disaster assistance to producers suffering from drought.

- \* Subcommittee on Production and Price Competitiveness
- \* Chairman of Subcommittee on Marketing, Inspection, and Product Promotion
- \* Subcommittee on Forestry, Conservation, and Rural Revitalization

Max is also a senior member of the [Joint Committee on Taxation](#), where he works together to craft legislation that helps businesses grow and prosper in Montana.

## **A National Leader With Montana Values**

Throughout his career, Max has never forgotten where he came from or who he represents. Raised on a ranch near Helena, Max understands that values of hard work, faith, family, and community. That's why he does "Work Days" as often as he can with a local business in Montana. Max spends a full day working alongside Montanans to gain a better perspective of the challenges they face. Over the years, he's done Work Days on farms and ranchers, at butcher shops and pharmacies, schools and construction sites. (View Work Day photo gallery.

In 1995 and 1996, Max walked the entire 820-mile length of Montana. An avid runner, Max completed a 50-mile running marathon in just over 12 hours in 2003.

Boosting the state's economy and creating good-paying jobs in Montana top Max's priority list. By combining his trademark work ethic with independence and experience, Max has helped create thousands of good-paying jobs in Montana. He's held three separate statewide Montana Economic Development Summits that each attracted more than 1000 people. These meeting amongst the state's top economic development officials and business people helped lay the foundation for economic development planning in the state.

By traveling overseas and hosting foreign dignitaries in Montana, Max has helped knock down trade barriers and establish new foreign markets for Montana's high-quality products. He's led trade missions to Asia, Cuba, Australia and many others over the years.

Max is also committed to cutting the rising number of the uninsured in Montana, boosting the state's education system, and fighting to increase access to public lands important to hunting and fishing.

Max was born in Helena and graduated from Helena High School in 1959. He earned both a Bachelor of Arts degree and a law degree from Stanford University. He is married to Wanda Minge, and has one son, Zeno. In what little free time Max has, he enjoys hunting, fishing, and recreating on the public lands he fights so hard to keep open.