

# **SENATE BUDGET COMMITTEE**

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## **KENT CONRAD, CHAIRMAN**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **STATEMENT BY SENATE BUDGET COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN KENT CONRAD (D-ND) ON CBO RE-ESTIMATE OF BUSH FY 2008 BUDGET**

The American public is in for a big surprise. CBO's evaluation of the President's budget shows the President is proposing a \$557 billion tax increase in the form of a health tax proposal. This tax plan would undermine employer-provided health care, while doing little to expand coverage to those most in need.

CBO's re-estimate shows the President's budget is still in deficit in 2012, although by a relatively small amount. Democrats intend to do better, as it is time for a new set of priorities for the nation. I look forward to working with my colleagues over the next few weeks in putting together a budget plan that is both fiscally responsible and meets the needs of the American people.

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