SENATE BUDGET COMMITTEE KENT CONRAD, CHAIRMAN

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CONRAD STATEMENT ON APPOINTMENT OF PETER R. ORSZAG AS NEW CBO DIRECTOR

"I am very pleased that Peter Orszag has now taken his post as the new director of the Congressional Budget Office. Dr. Orszag is an exceptional individual and an outstanding economist. His research and writings are highly regarded by economists, academics, and political leaders.

"Importantly, he is well-respected on both sides of the aisle and understands the importance of CBO's non-partisan role. His selection has been praised by Democrats and Republicans and by former CBO Directors appointed by both parties.

"Dr. Orszag also has a firm grasp of the budget challenges facing our nation. His analysis and counsel will be a great asset to Congress. I know Dr. Orszag will serve Congress and the country well in his new position."

NOTE: On January 12, as the new Budget Committee Chairman, Senator Conrad formally recommended Dr. Orszag's appointment as CBO Director to Senate President Pro Tempore Robert C. Byrd (D-WV). House Budget Committee Chairman John Spratt (D-SC) made a similar recommendation to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA). The appointment of Dr. Orszag was made today.

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