

For Immediate Release

Contact: Craig Orfield (202) 224-6770

Monday, August 3, 2009

Enzi: No Artificial Deadline for Bipartisan Health Care Reform Talks

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senator Mike Enzi (R-Wyo.) today said negotiators on the Senate Finance Committee have not set a mid-September deadline for bipartisan health care reform talks, and he reiterated that getting health care legislation right is more important than getting it done quickly.

"I have not and will not agree to an artificial deadline because I am committed to getting health care reform right, not finishing a bill by some arbitrary date. Improving access to quality, affordable health care for American families is too important to do hastily. Additionally, since many of the policies under discussion will not take effect for a number of years, we should focus on the goal of meaningful reform and not rush to meet timelines," said Enzi, who has been deeply involved in bipartisan Finance Committee negotiations.

"We're making progress, but we still have several significant, outstanding items to work on. I won't be moved by partisan threats to misuse the budget reconciliation process. I am committed to getting health care reform right."

###