

SENATE BUDGET COMMITTEE

KENT CONRAD, CHAIRMAN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 15, 2008

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STATEMENT BY SENATE BUDGET COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN KENT CONRAD (D-ND) ON CBO REPORT ON FISCAL STIMULUS

“Recent data have confirmed that our economy is slowing and the risk of a recession is growing. As Congress begins to consider options for a fiscal stimulus package, CBO’s report will provide a useful set of guidelines for evaluating the potential effectiveness of possible stimulus measures.

“It is clear that, to be most effective, fiscal stimulus should be timely, targeted, and temporary. It should be enacted quickly to move dollars into the economy as soon as possible. It should be focused on the middle class and others who are most likely to spend whatever benefit they receive and generate new economic activity. And it should be temporary, so that our long-term budget outlook is not worsened.

“A stimulus package can and should be crafted in a fiscally responsible manner. An effective stimulus package can boost the economy without undermining our commitment to fiscal discipline.”

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NOTE TO EDITORS: CBO’s report on fiscal stimulus was completed at the request of Chairman Conrad and House Budget Committee Chairman John Spratt (D-SC).