

SENATE BUDGET COMMITTEE

KENT CONRAD, RANKING MEMBER

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STATEMENT BY SENATOR KENT CONRAD (D-ND) ON BUDGET COMMITTEE VOTE TO CONFIRM ROB PORTMAN AS OMB DIRECTOR

I voted in the Budget Committee today to confirm Rob Portman as the new OMB Director. I have high regard for him personally and for his skills as public servant.

Ambassador Portman has a very tough job ahead of him. He is inheriting a budget outlook of massive deficits and debt. I hope under his leadership the Bush administration will change course from the failed economic policies it has pursued since taking office. We must begin to put our fiscal house back in order.

I have urged Ambassador Portman to use his new position to find a bipartisan solution to our nation's budget challenges. Our fiscal problems can only be solved if we all come to the table and work together.

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