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Contact: Craig Orfield
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202-224-6770

STATEMENT OF U.S. SENATOR MIKE ENZI (R-WY), CHAIRMAN, SENATE
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR AND PENSIONS:

“I am pleased that the President has nominated Lester M. Crawford as Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, and will convene hearings to review his nomination as quickly as possible,” said Enzi. “The FDA is at a crucial point in its history and needs a leader with the vision to cope with the many advances in genetics, pharmacology and related fields, which will test the agency’s regulatory processes now in force.”

“Dr. Crawford has a long and distinguished history of leadership and public service,” Enzi said. “I am looking forward to hearing how he would lead the FDA in promoting and protecting the public health,” Enzi added.

Enzi, Senator Ted Kennedy (D-MA), the Committee’s Ranking Member, and 17 other HELP Committee members recently called on the President to nominate a permanent Commissioner promptly. In a letter to President Bush on Feb.1, they noted that Congress and the public are intensely scrutinizing the FDA’s work in reviewing drug applications and enforcing drug safety.