

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, April 13, 2005

ENZI ANNOUNCES POSTPONEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION ON LESTER
CRAWFORD NOMINATION

Washington, D.C. - U.S. Senator Mike Enzi (R-WY), Chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee (HELP Committee), has announced that the Committee has postponed the Executive Session scheduled for today on the President's nomination of Dr. Lester Crawford as Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

"Because concerns have been raised by Committee members about the future direction of the FDA, I am postponing the scheduled vote on Dr. Crawford's nomination to provide more time for the President's nominee to address those issues. I also hope this postponement will provide an opportunity to clear away any lingering objections that are politically motivated rather than substantive.

"In my view, FDA's mission to protect the public health has never been more important. It is critical that the Senate confirm a qualified nominee who is ready to lead and restore the FDA to its prior status as the gold standard of our government's regulatory process."