



For Immediate Release

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Monday, July 28, 2006

***HELP COMMITTEE INVESTIGATION INTO FDA DECISION ON SILICONE BREAST IMPLANTS FINDS NO IRREGULARITIES IN APPROVAL PROCESS, ENZI SAYS***

**Washington, D.C.** – U.S. Senator Mike Enzi (R-Wyo.), Chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee, announced Friday that he has closed a year long investigation into the Food and Drug Administration’s (FDA) 2005 advisory committee review of silicone breast implants prompted by concerns from dozens of groups and individuals alleging impropriety in the FDA’s approval process of these medical devices.

Releasing a newly-prepared Committee report examining whether there were any irregularities in the FDA’s decision, Enzi said that while the investigation did identify some concerns, it found no irregularities in the process that require a reversal of FDA action following the recommendations of the 2005 panel.

“As the HELP Committee has prepared this report, we’ve learned some important lessons on how the FDA administers its advisory committee system,” Enzi said. “We will build on the findings of this investigation by including provisions to address the problem of potential conflicts of interest among advisory committee members in the drug safety bill Senator Edward Kennedy (D-MA) and I are preparing for introduction.”

The report also specifies that the Chairman’s office will continue to monitor developments on this issue.

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