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CHAIRMAN JIM SAXTON

PRESS RELEASE

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INCREASED FED TRANSPARENCY IS DESIRABLE

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WASHINGTON, D.C. – The trend towards increasing transparency at the Federal Reserve is important, even if Fed statements are subject to different interpretations, Chairman Jim Saxton said today. Saxton's comments came in the wake of media reports regarding conflicting interpretations of Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke's testimony last week before the Joint Economic Committee.

"Last week, Chairman Bernanke indicated that the Fed was not necessarily locked into a schedule of interest rate increases this year, and noted that the Fed will continually reevaluate its economic forecasts depending on the latest information available," Saxton said. "Chairman Bernanke clearly indicated that Fed policy would be data driven, and in this sense flexible. There have been several media reports about how to interpret his statements in light of other remarks supposedly made in a private discussion with a reporter. In any event, I will be submitting written questions to the Chairman, and expect his response will show that this controversy has been overblown," Saxton concluded.

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