

SEN. JACK REED (RI)

SEN. EDWARD M. KENNEDY (MA)
SEN. PAUL S. SARBANES (MD)
SEN. JEFF BINGAMAN (NM)
SEN. JON CORZINE (NJ)
REP. FORTNEY PETE STARK (CA)
REP. CAROLYN B. MALONEY (NY)
REP. MELVIN L. WATT (NC)

Congress of the United States

Joint Economic Committee Democratic Staff

107TH CONGRESS
804 HART SENATE OFFICE
BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6602
202-224-0372
FAX 202-224-5568
www.house.gov/jec_democrats/

PATRICIA RUGGLES
STAFF DIRECTOR

For Immediate Release
July 6, 2001

Contact: Nan Gibson
202-224-0377

SENATOR REED ANNOUNCES DEMOCRATIC STAFF APPOINTMENTS to JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

New Team of Researchers to Produce Timely Analyses of Economic Trends and Policies

Washington, D.C. -- The incoming Vice Chairman of the Joint Economic Committee, **Senator Jack Reed**, D-RI, today announced several new committee staff appointments, including the staff director, several economists, and the press secretary.

"The role of the committee is to act as Congress's think tank on economic policy by regularly reporting on the state of the economy. To that end, I have assembled a well-respected team of analysts with experience working for Congress, the executive branch, and various research organizations," said Reed. "The new JEC staff will produce timely analyses of economic policies and trends, and of the likely consequences of legislative proposals."

The JEC Democratic staff includes the following:

Patricia Ruggles is the Staff Director. She was Deputy Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services during the Clinton Administration. Ruggles has served twice before at the JEC as a Senior Economist, specializing in health and welfare issues. She has also been a Senior Research Associate at the Urban Institute; a Policy Analyst at the Congressional Budget Office; a Research Fellow at the Brookings Institution; a Research Assistant at the National Bureau for Economic Research; and she has taught at Yale and Harvard Universities. The author of *Drawing the Line: Alternative Poverty Measures and Their Implications for Public Policy* (1990), Ruggles holds a Ph.D. and M.A. in Economics from Harvard University and a B.A. in History from Yale University.

Frank Sammartino is a Principal Economist for tax and retirement policies. He was a Principal Research Associate at the Urban Institute's Income and Benefits Policy Center. Previously, Sammartino was Acting Assistant Director, Deputy Assistant Director, and Principal Analyst for the Tax Analysis Division at the Congressional Budget Office. He was also Acting Division Director for the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation at Health and Human Services in the early 1980s. He holds an M.A. in Economics from the University of Wisconsin and an A.B., magna cum laude, in Economics from Boston College.

Diane Lim Rogers is a Principal Economist covering tax and budget policies. She was a Senior Economist on the Council of Economic Advisers during 2000-01 and prior to that was a Senior Research Associate at the Urban Institute's Income and Benefits Policy Center. Rogers was also Principal Analyst in the Tax Analysis Division of the Congressional Budget Office and

- more -

Assistant Professor of Economics at Penn State University. She holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Virginia, an M.A. in Economics from Brown University, and a B.A. in Economics from the University of Michigan.

Matt Salomon is a Principal Economist for macroeconomic issues, responsible for monitoring and reporting economic developments. Previously, he spent 16 years with the Congressional Budget Office, working on macroeconomic modeling and forecasting. Salomon received an M.A. in Econometrics and a B.A. in Mathematics and Economics from Boston University, as well as an M.S. in Political Economy from Johns Hopkins University.

Nan Gibson is the Press Secretary. She was Communications Director for the Economic Policy Institute, a Washington-based think tank, for the past nine years. Previously, she was a research and editorial assistant to author and *The New Yorker* magazine columnist Elizabeth Drew, press coordinator at C-SPAN, and a reporter for a CBS News affiliate in Indiana.

Daphne Clones is a Senior Economist and Special Assistant to the Staff Director. She was Senior Policy Analyst at the Corporation for Enterprise Development, managing its annual *Development Report Card for the States*, and was also a researcher for the Economic Policy Institute. Clones holds an M.A. in Economics and Historical Studies from the New School for Social Research and a B.A., cum laude, from New York University.

Michael Kapsa is a Senior Economist. He has worked on a number of health-related issues, including the economics of a Medicare prescription drug benefit, the pharmaceutical industry, and the reimbursement methodology for Medicare and Medicaid prescription drugs. He holds a Ph.D. and an M.A. in Economics from the New School for Social Research and a B.A. in Philosophy from Haverford College.

Kathleen FitzGerald is an Economist. She has worked on health and education issues at the Congressional Budget Office and the Office of Management and Budget. Previously, she managed projects for The Harwood Group and The Pew Center for Civic Journalism. She holds an M.A. in Public Policy from Georgetown University and a B.A. from Tufts University.

Russell Comeau is a Research Assistant. Prior to joining the JEC, he was an intern with the Office of the Secretary of Defense. He holds an A.B. in Economics and Political Science from Brown University.

Jeanine Kiec is a Research Assistant. She was a correspondence analyst at the White House under the Clinton Administration and holds a B.A., summa cum laude, in Government and History from The College of William and Mary.

Martina Morgan is the office manager. She was Budget Priorities Secretary for the House Budget Committee in the mid-1980s. Recently, she was a Program Support Manager for the Small Enterprise and Education Promotion in Washington, D.C.

The Joint Economic Committee, established under the Employment Act of 1946, was created by Congress to review economic conditions and to analyze the effectiveness of economic policy.