

1 EXECUTIVE BUSINESS MEETING TO CONSIDER THE NOMINATION OF
2 MARILYN B. TAVENNER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF
3 THE CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES
4 TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2013
5 U.S. Senate,
6 Committee on Finance,
7 Washington, DC.

8 The hearing was convened, pursuant to notice, at
9 10:38 a.m., in room 215, Dirksen Senate Office Building,
10 Hon. Max Baucus (chairman of the committee) presiding.

11 Also present: Senators Rockefeller, Wyden, Schumer,
12 Cantwell, Nelson, Carper, Cardin, Brown, Bennet, Casey,
13 Hatch, Grassley, Thune, Isakson, and Toomey.

14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26

1 The Chairman. Today the committee will consider
2 the nomination of Marilyn Tavenner, nominated to be
3 Administrator of CMS.

4 I encourage any Senators to submit statements for
5 the record, but will recognize any Senator wishing to
6 make a statement. I ask Senators to keep their
7 statements to no more than four minutes.

8 I see no Senators seeking recognition.

9 Senator Hatch. Mr. Chairman?

10 The Chairman. Senator Hatch?

11 Senator Hatch. Let me just say that I think this
12 is an excellent choice. The CMS has a budget larger than
13 the Department of Defense. It is the Nation's single
14 largest insurer, oversees Medicare and Medicaid, and is
15 set to implement vast portions of the President's health
16 care law.

17 Marilyn Tavenner has a lot of experience, and she
18 has proven herself to be a very fine person. We need a
19 permanent person there. I support her strongly, and I
20 will put the rest of my remarks in the record.

21 [The prepared statement of Senator Hatch appears at
22 the end of the transcript.]

23 The Chairman. I thank you, Senator. I appreciate
24 that. She is an excellent choice. I think she will be a
25 terrific Administrator, one of the best. Your support

1 will help her be one of the best.

2 This committee intends to work with Ms. Tavenner.
3 She intends to work with us because the challenges facing
4 CMS are daunting. We will have an Administrator who is
5 very, very, very good. That's very good to know.

6 The committee will consider the nomination. If
7 there is no further debate, I will entertain a motion
8 that the committee report the nominee.

9 Senator Hatch. I so move.

10 The Chairman. All those in favor, say aye.

11 [A chorus of Ayes.]

12 The Chairman. Those opposed, no.

13 [No response.]

14 The Chairman. The ayes have it. The nominee is
15 ordered reported.

16 I thank all Senators for their attendance and for
17 their expeditious approval of this matter.

18 We can now resume the hearing.

19 [Whereupon, at 10:40 a.m., the executive business
20 meeting was adjourned.]

21

22

23

24

**STATEMENT OF HON. ORRIN G. HATCH, RANKING MEMBER
U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE EXECUTIVE BUSINESS MEETING
ON THE NOMINATION OF MARILYN B. TAVENNER,
OF VIRGINIA, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES
APRIL 23, 2013**

The power and impact of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) on the lives of millions of Americans cannot be overstated.

CMS has a budget larger than the Department of Defense, is the nation's single largest insurer, oversees Medicare and Medicaid, and is set to implement vast portions of the President's health law.

I've met with the nominee to head CMS, Marilyn Tavenner, multiple times and found her to be smart and diligent. Her background as both a nurse and a former hospital administrator give her a unique perspective which will serve her well as head of such a large agency at a critical time.

With Medicare and Medicaid on an unsustainable fiscal path, the cost of health care continuing to rise, and with the implementation of the health law moving forward, CMS needs strong leadership, and I am confident in Ms. Tavenner's ability to keep CMS on the right track.

I urge my fellow Members to join me in supporting her nomination.