

1 OPEN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO CONSIDER FAVORABLY REPORTING
2 THE NOMINATIONS OF JOSEPH L. BARLOON, TO BE DEPUTY
3 UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE (GENEVA OFFICE), WITH
4 THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR, EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE
5 PRESIDENT; AND BRIAN P. MORRISSEY, JR., TO BE GENERAL
6 COUNSEL, DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
7 TUESDAY, JULY 22, 2025
8 U.S. Senate,
9 Committee on Finance,
10 Washington, DC.

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12 The meeting was convened, pursuant to notice, at
13 9:51 a.m., in Room SD-215, Dirksen Senate Office
14 Building, Hon. Mike Crapo (chairman of the committee)
15 presiding.

16 Present: Senator Wyden.

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18 Also present: Republican staff: Brian Bombassaro,
19 International Trade Counsel; Andrew Dell'Orto, Policy
20 Advisor; Molly Newell, International Trade Counsel;
21 Gregg Richard, Staff Director; and James Williams, Tax
22 and Economic Policy Advisor. Democratic staff: Virginia
23 Lenahan, Chief International Trade Counsel; Sarah
24 Schaefer, Chief Tax Advisor; Joshua Sheinkman, Staff
25 Director; and Shade Streeter, Investigative Counsel.
26

1 OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. MIKE CRAPO, A U.S. SENATOR
2 FROM IDAHO, CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
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4 The Chairman. The committee will come to order.

5 We meet today to consider favorably reporting the
6 nomination of Joe Barloon, who is nominated to serve as
7 Deputy USTR and Ambassador to the World Trade
8 Organization; and Brian Morrissey, who is nominated to
9 serve as the General Counsel of the Treasury Department.

10 The meeting this morning will provide members who
11 want to do so to take an opportunity to make remarks on
12 the nominees. Following these statements, we will
13 recess briefly and then proceed to our nominations
14 hearing at 10:15.

15 We will meet at 11 a.m. today, off the Senate
16 floor during the first vote, to vote on Mr. Barloon and
17 Mr. Morrissey, pursuant to our agreement. During his
18 hearing, Mr. Barloon discussed his plan to work in good
19 faith with WTO members, and to advance the interests of
20 the United States.

21 Importantly, based on his prior tenure as General
22 Counsel to the U.S. Trade Representative, Mr. Barloon
23 understands the critical role the WTO plays in ensuring
24 market access for our farmers and businesses of all
25 types. If confirmed, Mr. Barloon will work to restore

1 U.S. leadership at the WTO.

2 Building on prior Treasury Department experience,
3 Mr. Morrissey is well suited to provide critical legal
4 and policy advice to the Secretary and to other senior
5 Department officials. He is exceptionally qualified for
6 the position, and his nomination received bipartisan
7 support from Treasury General Counsels dating back to
8 1977.

9 I was encouraged to hear that he would prioritize
10 a close working relationship with Congress, to ensure
11 that the Department effectively implements all of the
12 laws sent to it. I will vote in favor of both
13 nominations, and I encourage all of my colleagues on the
14 committee to do the same.

15 And I now recognize Ranking Member Wyden for his
16 remarks.

1 OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. RON WYDEN, A U.S. SENATOR FROM
2 OREGON

3
4 Senator Wyden. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5 Before we begin today, I would like to say a few
6 words about the nominees that will be voted on. I will
7 start with Mr. Brian Morrissey, who has been nominated
8 to serve as the Treasury Department's top lawyer. In my
9 view, he is a qualified nominee with experience inside
10 the Federal Government and the private sector.

11 But Mr. Morrissey's credential really are not the
12 issue. The real question is, how does somebody approach
13 the role of being in-house counsel for an administration
14 that has turned violating the law into an Olympic sport?
15 Donald Trump has knee-capped the Treasury Department's
16 ability to go after white-collar criminals and tax
17 cheats.

18 He is weaponizing the IRS to crack down on free
19 speech and stomp on taxpayer privacy laws. And now that
20 Republicans have rammed their dangerous budget bill into
21 law, the Treasury Department will oversee the
22 implementation of massive tax cuts for corporations and
23 Donald Trump's biggest and most affluent donors.

24 Now let me turn to Joseph Barloon. He has been
25 nominated to serve as Deputy U.S. Trade Representative

1 to the World Trade Organization in Geneva. Donald Trump
2 has charged ahead with poisonous tariffs and erratic
3 trade threats that have raised prices for families and
4 wrecked supply chains for American businesses. A better
5 strategy would be fixing the trade system, to make sure
6 that U.S. workers, farmers, and companies get a fair
7 shake. That includes fixing the World Trade
8 Organization.

9 Mr. Barloon has failed to give us any reassurance
10 whatsoever that he or the administration have a plan to
11 move past some of these clichés and threats and actually
12 get some real results that benefit the American people.
13 Additionally, Mr. Barloon failed to provide me or my
14 staff with forthcoming answers about his work for
15 foreign entities, and that raises several serious
16 questions.

17 I will wrap up with this. Donald Trump has
18 carefully hand-selected a roster of nominees to be
19 willing participants as he runs roughshod over the
20 Constitution and Americans' fundamental rights, and
21 enriches his friends and his donors.

22 If Mr. Morrissey and Mr. Barloon are confirmed,
23 they will be tasked with oversight and execution of
24 Trump's reckless policies and actions that have been
25 putting the American people at risk. I have seen no

1 indication from either nominee that they would check
2 some of these dangerous impulses from the Trump
3 administration. I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on
4 both of these nominations.

5 The Chairman. Thank you, Senator Wyden.

6 And now unless there is any other Senator who seeks
7 to make a statement, we will proceed. Procedurally,
8 unless there is an objection, the committee will recess
9 briefly until 10:15 and proceed to this morning's
10 nominations hearing.

11 We will reconvene to vote on these nominations off
12 the Senate floor at 11 a.m. during the first vote.
13 Without objection, it is so ordered.

14 [Whereupon, at 9:57 a.m., the meeting was
15 recessed.]

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17 The open executive session was reconvened,
18 pursuant to notice, on Tuesday, July 22, 2025, at 11
19 a.m., in Room S-216, The President's Room, U.S. Capitol,
20 Hon. Mike Crapo (chairman of the committee) presiding.

21 The Chairman. The committee will come to order.

22 We now have a quorum. I move that we favorably
23 report the nomination of Joseph Barloon.

24 Senator Grassley. Seconded.

25 The Chairman. The Clerk will call the roll.

1 The Clerk. Mr. Grassley?
2 Senator Grassley. Aye.
3 The Clerk. Mr. Cornyn?
4 Senator Cornyn. Aye.
5 The Clerk. Mr. Thune?
6 Senator Thune. Aye.
7 The Clerk. Mr. Scott?
8 Senator Scott. Aye.
9 The Clerk. Mr. Cassidy?
10 Senator Cassidy. Aye.
11 The Clerk. Mr. Lankford?
12 Senator Lankford. Aye.
13 The Clerk. Mr. Daines?
14 Senator Daines. Aye.
15 The Clerk. Mr. Young?
16 Senator Young. Aye.
17 The Clerk. Mr. Barrasso?
18 Senator Barrasso. Aye.
19 The Clerk. Mr. Johnson?
20 Senator Johnson. Aye.
21 The Clerk. Mr. Tillis?
22 Senator Tillis. Aye.
23 The Clerk. Mrs. Blackburn?
24 Senator Blackburn. Aye.
25 The Clerk. Mr. Marshall?

1 Senator Marshall. Aye.
2 The Clerk. Mr. Wyden?
3 Senator Wyden. Nay.
4 The Clerk. Ms. Cantwell?
5 Senator Cantwell. Nay.
6 The Clerk. Mr. Bennet?
7 Senator Bennet. Nay.
8 The Clerk. Mr. Warner?
9 Senator Warner. Nay.
10 The Clerk. Mr. Whitehouse?
11 Senator Whitehouse. Nay.
12 The Clerk. Ms. Hassan?
13 Senator Hassan. Nay.
14 The Clerk. Ms. Cortez Masto?
15 Senator Cortez Masto. Nay.
16 The Clerk. Ms. Warren?
17 Senator Warren. Nay.
18 The Clerk. Mr. Sanders?
19 Senator Wyden. Nay by proxy.
20 The Clerk. Ms. Smith?
21 Senator Smith. Nay.
22 The Clerk. Mr. Luján?
23 Senator Luján. Nay.
24 The Clerk. Mr. Warnock?
25 Senator Wyden. Nay by proxy.

1 The Clerk. Mr. Welch?

2 Senator Wyden. Nay by proxy.

3 The Clerk. Mr. Chairman?

4 The Chairman. Aye.

5 The Clerk will announce the vote.

6 The Clerk. Mr. Chairman, the final tally is 14
7 ayes and 13 nays.

8 The Chairman. The "ayes" have it. And the
9 nomination is favorably reported.

10 We'll now move to favorably report the nomination
11 of Brian Morrissey, Jr.

12 Senator Grassley. Seconded.

13 The Chairman. The Clerk will call the roll.

14 The Clerk. Mr. Grassley?

15 Senator Grassley. Aye.

16 The Clerk. Mr. Cornyn?

17 Senator Cornyn. Aye.

18 The Clerk. Mr. Thune?

19 Senator Thune. Aye.

20 The Clerk. Mr. Scott?

21 Senator Scott. Aye.

22 The Clerk. Mr. Cassidy?

23 Senator Cassidy. Aye.

24 The Clerk. Mr. Lankford?

25 Senator Lankford. Aye.

1 The Clerk. Mr. Daines?
2 Senator Daines. Aye.
3 The Clerk. Mr. Young?
4 Senator Young. Aye.
5 The Clerk. Mr. Barrasso?
6 Senator Barrasso. Aye.
7 The Clerk. Mr. Johnson?
8 Senator Johnson. Aye.
9 The Clerk. Mr. Tillis?
10 Senator Tillis. Aye.
11 The Clerk. Mrs. Blackburn?
12 Senator Blackburn. Aye.
13 The Clerk. Mr. Marshall?
14 Senator Marshall. Aye.
15 The Clerk. Mr. Wyden?
16 Senator Wyden. Nay.
17 The Clerk. Ms. Cantwell?
18 Senator Cantwell. Nay.
19 The Clerk. Mr. Bennet?
20 Senator Bennet. Nay.
21 The Clerk. Mr. Warner?
22 Senator Warner. Nay.
23 The Clerk. Mr. Whitehouse?
24 Senator Whitehouse. Nay.
25 The Clerk. Ms. Hassan?

1 Senator Hassan. Nay.

2 The Clerk. Ms. Cortez Masto?

3 Senator Cortez Masto. Nay.

4 The Clerk. Ms. Warren?

5 Senator Warren. Nay.

6 The Clerk. Mr. Sanders?

7 Senator Wyden. Nay by proxy.

8 The Clerk. Ms. Smith?

9 Senator Smith. Nay.

10 The Clerk. Mr. Luján?

11 Senator Luján. Nay.

12 The Clerk. Mr. Warnock?

13 Senator Wyden. Nay by proxy.

14 The Clerk. Mr. Welch?

15 Senator Wyden. Nay by proxy.

16 The Clerk. Mr. Chairman?

17 The Chairman. Aye.

18 The Clerk will announce the vote.

19 The Clerk. Mr. Chairman, the final tally is 14
20 ayes and 13 nays.

21 The Chairman. The "ayes" have it, and the
22 nomination is favorably reported.

23 I thank my colleagues for their attendance. The
24 committee stands adjourned.

25 [Whereupon, at 11:41 a.m., the meeting was

1 concluded.]

1	STATEMENT OF:	PAGE
2	Hon. Mike Crapo,	2
3	a U.S. Senator from Idaho,	
4	chairman, Committee on Finance	
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6	Hon. Ron Wyden,	4
7	a U.S. Senator from Oregon	