Opening Statement of G. Hunter McMaster II
Nominee to Serve as Assistant Secretary for Financial Markets for the U.S. Department of the Treasury
U.S. Senate Committee on Finance
July 16, 2026

Chairman Crapo, Ranking Member Wyden, and distinguished Members of the Committee:

It is the highest honor of my life to appear before you today as the nominee of Assistant Secretary for Financial Markets at the United States Department of the Treasury.

I would like to thank President Trump for the opportunity to serve our country, and Secretary Bessent for his confidence in me—both in this nomination and over the past several years.

I am also grateful to the Members and staff of this Committee who have taken the time to meet with me. I have greatly valued our discussions, and if confirmed, I look forward to working together.

I would like to recognize my parents, Beth and Will McMaster. I have been deeply blessed by their unwavering support, steadfast love, and wise counsel. Even through life's most pressing trials, my parents have demonstrated faith, integrity, and trust in God's plan, a lesson for which I am profoundly grateful.

I also would like to recognize my brother and sister, William and Dargan, their spouses, Emily and Rob, and my nieces and nephews. Their support has been indispensable. Finally, I would like to thank God for blessing me with the opportunity to appear before this committee.

Throughout my professional career, I have focused on financial markets. After graduating from college, I worked at two large financial institutions, focusing on foreign exchange and interest rate markets. In 2023, Secretary Bessent gave me the opportunity to serve as Head of Trading at Key Square Group. These experiences have allowed me to develop deep expertise in financial markets.

However, nothing compares to the privilege of serving at the United States Treasury over the past year, nor to the opportunity to be nominated for this position. I am deeply grateful to the mentors who guided me toward a role central to debt management, capital markets, and the economic well-being of the American people.

Among the incredible strengths of the United States—abundant resources, an enduring constitution, a dynamic economy and an enterprising population—the primacy of our capital markets cannot be overstated.

The strength of America's capital markets isn't just a point of pride—it's a cornerstone of our economic leadership. Investors, domestic and foreign, choose the United States because we offer transparency, stability, and the rule of law. Our capital markets fuel innovation, support businesses, enable millions of Americans to save for retirement, bolster national security, and raise standards of living.

At the core of this system is the U.S. Treasury market—the deepest and most liquid market in the world. The U.S. dollar serves as the world's reserve currency, and U.S. Treasuries as the world's reserve asset. This unique position underpins borrowing costs across our economy. And it is the strength and resilience of the U.S. Treasury market that allow our equity and corporate debt markets to thrive as the backbone of the private economy.

The Office of Financial Markets plays a central role in safeguarding America's global economic leadership. The Office helps finance the nation at the lowest cost to taxpayers over time. It promotes deep, competitive, and well-regulated capital markets that support investment and economic growth. Through a regular and predictable Treasury issuance strategy, the Office reinforces market resilience, while maintaining close engagement with a broad range of market participants to ensure policy decisions reflect real-time market conditions and investor sentiment.

If confirmed, I would build upon the strong foundation established by my predecessors while bringing a market-informed perspective shaped by years of experience analyzing capital flows, investor behavior, and global financial conditions. My experience has given me a deep appreciation for the importance of transparency, liquidity, and investor confidence in preserving the strength of the U.S. financial system.

However, I recognize that the enduring strength of our markets ultimately comes from the American people—the millions of workers, savers, retirees, and investors whose participation power our economy. My goal will be to enhance the primacy of our financial markets, understanding that the great citizens of this country are the most powerful economic force in the world.

My priority will be to advance President Trump and Secretary Bessent's commitment to strong and vibrant capital markets, preserve the central role of U.S. Treasuries as the world's premier reserve asset, and expand opportunities for Americans to invest with confidence. I will work to support policies that strengthen market integrity, foster capital formation, and maintain the stability that underpins America's economic leadership.

Edmund Burke said that "a disposition to preserve, and an ability to improve, taken together, would be [his] standard of a statesman." Under the leadership of President Donald Trump and Secretary Bessent, if confirmed, that will be my standard as Assistant Secretary for Financial Markets.

Thank you for your time today, and I look forward to answering your questions.