

1 OPEN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO CONSIDER FAVORABLY REPORTING
2 THE NOMINATION OF ROBERT LIGHTHIZER, OF FLORIDA, TO BE
3 UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE, WITH THE RANK OF
4 AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY
5 THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2017
6 U.S. Senate,
7 Committee on Finance,
8 Washington, DC.

9 The meeting was convened, pursuant to notice, at
10 9:51 a.m., in room 215, Dirksen Senate Office Building,
11 Hon. Orrin G. Hatch (chairman of the committee)
12 presiding.

13 Present: Senators Grassley, Roberts, Thune, Toomey,
14 Heller, Scott, Cassidy, Wyden, Stabenow, Cantwell,
15 Carper, Cardin, Bennet, Casey, and McCaskill.

16 Also present: Republican Staff: Mark Prater,
17 Deputy Staff Director and Chief Tax Counsel; and Chris
18 Armstrong, Deputy Oversight Counsel. Democratic Staff:
19 Joshua Sheinkman, Staff Director; Michael Evans, General
20 Counsel; Tiffany Smith, Chief Tax Counsel; Adam Carasso,
21 Senior Tax and Economic Advisor; and Daniel Goshorn,
22 Investigator.

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1 OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. ORRIN G. HATCH, A U.S. SENATOR
2 FROM UTAH, CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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4 The Chairman. The committee will come to order. We
5 welcome all of you here.

6 This morning we are in a scheduled executive session
7 in order to consider and hopefully report the nomination
8 of Bob Lighthizer to be the U.S. trade representative.
9 Unfortunately, due to scheduling conflicts, it is
10 apparent that we will not be able to obtain a sufficient
11 quorum to vote on this nomination today.

12 This is a nominee who enjoys bipartisan support here
13 on the committee. My hope is that we will be able to
14 move on this matter shortly after the Senate returns from
15 recess.

16 So for the time being, the executive session will be
17 in recess subject to the call of the chair.

18 Senator Wyden. Mr. Chairman?

19 The Chairman. Yes?

20 Senator Wyden. Can I make a brief comment with
21 respect to the Lighthizer nomination?

22 The Chairman. Sure.

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

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4 Senator Wyden. First, Mr. Chairman, with respect to
5 the Lighthizer nomination, I would like to thank you for
6 your continued work with us to address our concerns and
7 the priorities of Democrats on this side of the dais. I
8 remain confident that we can find a way to have a
9 positive and strongly bipartisan markup of Mr.
10 Lighthizer.

11 And I will wrap up by saying my sense is this place
12 cannot have enough comity -- that is comity with a T --
13 and I thank you for your efforts to work with us.

14 And I look forward to our hearing, of course.

15 The Chairman. Well, I thank you for your efforts.
16 And it has been a pleasure to work with you in the past.

17 And I look forward to working with you in the future.

18 Senator Wyden. Thank you.

19 The Chairman. I think we make a good team.

20 Senator Wyden. Thank you.

21 [Whereupon, at 9:53 a.m., the hearing was recessed,
22 subject to the call of the Chair.]

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I N D E X

PAGE

STATEMENT OF:

THE HONORABLE ORRIN G. HATCH A United States Senator from the State of Utah	2
THE HONORABLE RON WYDEN A United States Senator from the State of Oregon	3