Crapo Statement at Executive Session to Consider Treasury, Commerce Nominees

November 18, 2026

Washington, D.C.—U.S. Senate Finance Committee Chairman Mike Crapo (R-Idaho) delivered the following remarks at an executive session to consider the nominations of Francis Browne to be an Under Secretary of the Treasury, Christopher Abbott to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Robert Stebbins to be General Counsel for the Treasury.

As prepared for delivery:

"We meet today, in executive session, to consider favorably reporting the nominations of the following individuals: Francis Browne to be Under Secretary of the Treasury for Domestic Finance; Christopher "Chris" Abbott to be Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance at the Department of Commerce; and Robert "Bob" Stebbins to be General Counsel of the Department of Treasury.

"As is our usual process, members will have an opportunity this morning to offer their remarks on the nominees.

"Members will be notified of the time and location off the Senate floor to conduct the vote later today on the nominees.

"During last week's hearing, Mr. Browne emphasized the importance of maintaining strong and stable financial markets, including preserving the strength of the Treasury market, promoting appropriately tailored financial regulation and supporting innovation in the financial sector.

"I appreciated his commitment to ensuring our financial system continues to support economic growth, expand opportunities for American families and businesses and maintain our nation's leadership in global finance.

"Mr. Abbott discussed the important responsibility of the Department of Commerce's Office of Enforcement and Compliance to administer our nation's trade remedy laws and ensure American workers and businesses can compete on a level playing field.

"I was encouraged by his commitment to enforcing our trade laws fairly and effectively, including by addressing unfair foreign subsidies and pricing practices, while ensuring decisions are transparent, well-reasoned and grounded in the law.

"Mr. Stebbins highlighted his past experiences as the General Counsel of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation.

“He also emphasized the important role the Treasury Legal Division plays in providing sound legal counsel on matters critical to our nation’s financial and economic interests. I welcomed his commitment to issuing timely guidance and maintaining a productive working relationship with Congress.

“I am voting in favor of each nominee and encourage my colleagues to do the same.”