



U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE ON

Finance

SENATOR CHUCK GRASSLEY, OF IOWA - CHAIRMAN

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Opening Statement of Chairman Chuck Grassley
Hearing to Consider Three Nominations
Thursday, April 26, 2001

This morning we will hear from nominees from the Department of Commerce, the Department of Treasury and the Department of Health and Human Services. I believe these nominees are all well-qualified for the positions they have been nominated for, and I look forward to hearing from them.

Our first nomination is Grant Aldonas. Grant has been nominated to be Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade. Grant is certainly no stranger to the Finance Committee, having worked as the Committee's Chief International Trade Counsel from 1997 through 2001. Grant is currently serving as a senior advisor to the Secretary of Commerce. Grant's vast experience in International Trade will certainly make him an asset to the Commerce Department and the Administration.

Our second nominee is John Taylor, who has been nominated to be Under Secretary of Treasury for International Affairs. Dr. Taylor is currently Professor of Economics at Stanford University and a Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institute. Dr. Taylor's wealth of economic knowledge will benefit the Treasury Department greatly.

Our final nominee is Scott Whitaker, who has been nominated to be Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services for Legislation. Mr. Whitaker was a member of Senator Don Nickles' staff for 10 years, concentrating on health care policy. Mr. Whitaker's experience in the Senate and his work with the Senate Finance Committee will give him an advantage in his legislative work on behalf of Health and Human Services.

Again, I'd like to welcome the three nominees to the Committee. We look forward to working with you all in the future and wish you the best of luck.