

1 OPEN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO CONSIDER FAVORABLY REPORTING
2 THE NOMINATION OF DOUGLAS J. McKALIP, TO BE CHIEF
3 AGRICULTURAL NEGOTIATOR, UNITED STATES TRADE
4 REPRESENTATIVE, EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESEIDENT
5 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2022
6 U.S. Senate,
7 Committee on Finance,
8 Washington, DC.

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10 The meeting was convened, pursuant to notice, at 10
11 a.m., in Room SD-215, Dirksen Senate Office Building,
12 Hon. Ron Wyden (chairman of the committee) presiding.

13 Present: Senator Crapo.

14 Also present: Democratic staff: Michael Evans,
15 Deputy Staff Director and Chief Counsel; Sally Laing,
16 Chief International Trade Counsel; Ian Nicholson,
17 Investigator and Nominations Advisor; and Tiffany Smith,
18 Chief Tax Counsel. Republican staff: Lincoln Foran,
19 Policy Advisor; Gregg Richard, Staff Director; and
20 Jeffrey Wrase, Deputy Staff Director and Chief
21 Economist.

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

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4 The Chairman. The Finance Committee meets this
5 morning to vote on the nomination of Mr. Doug McKalip to
6 serve as the Chief Agricultural Negotiator within the
7 Office of the United States Trade Representative.

8 Obviously trade is essential to our country, and to my
9 State, something like one out of four jobs revolves
10 around international trade. And the trade jobs often pay
11 better than do the non-trade jobs because there is a
12 value added. And we do a lot of things well in Oregon.
13 What we do especially well is we grow things.

14 And I know Senator Crapo feels very strongly about
15 this whole question of agriculture in the Northwest --
16 for example, potatoes, and other agricultural products.
17 So, this is an extremely important position.

18 And Mr. McKalip is certainly qualified for this job.
19 He has been a public servant for nearly 30 years in
20 roles focused on ag policy and helping rural America get
21 ahead. He is currently a top advisor to Agricultural
22 Secretary Vilsack on trade, ag safety, national security
23 and a host of other issues.

24 His experience includes several other leadership
25 positions at the Department of Agriculture and with the

1 Domestic Policy Council. There's no doubt that he'll be
2 ready to step in and succeed as Chief Ag Negotiator on
3 day one. He is going to be busy.

4 These days Americans are paying more for their
5 groceries but getting less, and our farms and ranchers
6 are getting clobbered by inflation and drought.
7 Americans are not alone in dealing with these crises.
8 Amid a pandemic, war and climate change, food is in
9 short supply around the world.

10 Smart trade policy is one important solution to
11 hunger in the 21st century -- a policy that promotes
12 affordable, abundant food here at home and abroad. The
13 policy has to lower costs for farmers, bust through
14 trade barriers and help distribute more American ag
15 exports.

16 Mr. McKalip will lead these efforts as our top ag
17 negotiator. He will also help address other key issues,
18 including areas where trade enforcement needs a boost.
19 For example, Canada is propping up barriers to our dairy
20 products. Mexico is unfairly blocking American-grown
21 corn and soybeans. The Trump administration negotiated a
22 flimsy agreement for the Chinese government to buy more
23 American ag products, but China is bringing in only a
24 fraction of the totals it agreed to.

25 Mr. McKalip is a strong choice to take on these

1 challenges as our top trade advocate for American
2 agriculture. He has fans on both sides of the aisle. We
3 expect to work closely with him once he is confirmed.

4 I urge all my colleagues to support him.

5 And let me now also go through the procedure for the
6 morning, because it is a hectic day following our August
7 recess. We have got many committees conducting
8 business. Ours is no exception. And having consulted
9 with Ranking Member Crapo, here is how we are going to
10 proceed this morning. And I have made my opening
11 statement and will be followed by Senator Crapo.

12 If there are any other Finance members who wish to
13 make statements, at that point we are going to recess
14 until the next roll call vote on the Senate floor, when
15 the Committee will reconvene in the President's Room off
16 the floor to have the vote.

17 My understanding is, this process is acceptable to
18 you, Senator Crapo.

19 Senator Crapo. Yes.

20 The Chairman. Very good. I have made my opening
21 statement. I urge my colleagues' support for Mr.
22 McKalip.

23 Let's hear now from Senator Crapo, and any other
24 Finance members who would like to be heard from.

1 OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. MIKE CRAPO, A U.S. SENATOR
2 FROM IDAHO

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4 Senator Crapo. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Today we
5 are voting on Doug McKalip, a nominee who if confirmed
6 will play a critical role in opening opportunities for
7 our farmers.

8 Our farmers need these opportunities more than ever
9 in the face of record inflation. I intend to support
10 him. Although I am disappointed that the Administration
11 has not prioritized agricultural market access,
12 including by taking too long to fill this position, I
13 appreciate that the nominee recognizes the importance of
14 opening foreign markets to our farmers.

15 Moreover, Mr. McKalip has extensive experience in
16 agricultural issues. I agree with the observations made
17 by our Chairman, and I thank you, Mr. Chairman, for
18 holding this Executive Session today.

19 I yield back to you.

20 The Chairman. I thank my colleague. I at this
21 point recognize that we do not have any additional
22 Finance members in attendance. So, we will stand in
23 recess, subject to the call of the Chair. Finance
24 members will be notified once the time and location are
25 determined for the continuation of today's markup. And

1 we stand in recess.

2 [Whereupon, at 10:06 a.m., the meeting was
3 recessed.]

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5 The open executive session was reconvened, pursuant
6 to notice, on Wednesday, September 7, 2022, at 2:15
7 p.m., in the hallway outside of Room S-216, The
8 President's Room, U.S. Capitol, Hon. Ron Wyden (chairman
9 of the committee) presiding.

10

11 The Chairman. We will now continue the open
12 executive session to consider the nomination of Mr. Doug
13 McKalip to serve as the Chief Agricultural Negotiator
14 within the Office of the United States Trade
15 Representative. I would entertain a motion to favorably
16 report the nomination of Mr. McKalip.

17 Senator Crapo. So moved.

18 The Chairman. The clerk will call the roll.

19 The Clerk. Ms. Stabenow?

20 Senator Stabenow. Aye.

21 The Clerk. Ms. Cantwell?

22 Senator Cantwell. Aye.

23 The Clerk. Mr. Menendez?

24 Senator Menendez. No response.

25 The Clerk. Mr. Carper?

1 Senator Carper. Aye.
2 The Clerk. Mr. Cardin?
3 Senator Cardin. Aye.
4 The Clerk. Mr. Brown?
5 Senator Brown. Aye.
6 The Clerk. Mr. Bennet?
7 Senator Bennet. Aye.
8 The Clerk. Mr. Casey?
9 Senator Casey. Aye.
10 The Clerk. Mr. Warner?
11 Senator Warner. Aye.
12 The Clerk. Mr. Whitehouse?
13 Senator Whitehouse. Aye.
14 The Clerk. Ms. Hassan?
15 Senator Hassan. Aye.
16 The Clerk. Ms. Cortez Masto?
17 Senator Cortez Masto. Aye.
18 The Clerk. Ms. Warren?
19 Senator Warren. Aye.
20 The Clerk. Mr. Crapo?
21 Senator Crapo. Aye.
22 The Clerk. Mr. Grassley?
23 Senator Grassley. Aye.
24 The Clerk. Mr. Cornyn?
25 Senator Cornyn. Aye.

1 The Clerk. Mr. Thune?
2 Senator Thune. Aye.
3 The Clerk. Mr. Burr?
4 Senator Crapo. Aye by proxy.
5 The Clerk. Mr. Portman?
6 Senator Portman. Aye.
7 The Clerk. Mr. Toomey?
8 Senator Crapo. Aye by proxy.
9 The Clerk. Mr. Scott?
10 Senator Crapo. Aye by proxy.
11 The Clerk. Mr. Cassidy?
12 Senator Crapo. Aye by proxy.
13 The Clerk. Mr. Lankford?
14 Senator Lankford. Aye.
15 The Clerk. Mr. Daines?
16 Senator Daines. Aye.
17 The Clerk. Mr. Young?
18 Senator Young. Aye.
19 The Clerk. Mr. Sasse?
20 Senator Sasse. Aye.
21 The Clerk. Mr. Barrasso?
22 Senator Barrasso. Aye.
23 The Clerk. Mr. Chairman?
24 The Chairman. Aye.
25 The clerk will announce the vote.

1 The Clerk. Mr. Chairman, the final tally is 27
2 ayes, 0 nays.

3 The Chairman. The "ayes" have it. The nomination
4 is ordered favorably reported. I thank my colleagues,
5 and with that the markup is concluded.

6 [Whereupon, at 2:44 p.m., the meeting was
7 concluded.]

1	STATEMENT OF:	PAGE
2	Hon. Ron Wyden,	2
3	a U.S. Senator from Oregon	
4		
5	Hon. Mike Crapo,	5
6	a U.S. Senator from Idaho	