

1 OPEN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO CONSIDER FAVORABLY REPORTING  
2 THE NOMINATION OF JAMIESON GREER, TO BE  
3 UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE, WITH THE RANK OF  
4 AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY, EXECUTIVE  
5 OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
6 TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2025  
7 U.S. Senate,  
8 Committee on Finance,  
9 Washington, DC.

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11 The meeting was convened, pursuant to notice, at  
12 11:33 a.m., in room SD-215, Dirksen Senate Office  
13 Building, Hon. Mike Crapo (chairman of the committee)  
14 presiding.

15

16 Present: Senator Wyden.

17 Also present: Republican staff: Andrew Dell'Orto,  
18 Policy Advisor; Molly Newell, International Trade  
19 Counsel; Mayur Patel, Chief International Trade Counsel;  
20 and Gregg Richard, Staff Director. Democratic staff:  
21 Virginia Lenahan, Chief International Trade Counsel;  
22 Joshua Sheinkman, Democratic Staff Director; and Tobin  
23 Ryder, Senior Investigative Counsel and Nominations  
24 Advisor.

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

3

4           The Chairman. The committee will come to order,  
5           and we will move to executive session.

6           We meet today for the committee's consideration of  
7           Jamieson Greer to be the United States Trade  
8           Representative. However, we have a colleague who cannot  
9           attend today. Accordingly, members may make statements  
10          now but the vote will be held in the Senate once the  
11          time is confirmed.

12          Regarding Mr. Greer, he demonstrated at the  
13          hearing that he is more than qualified to be our  
14          Nation's chief trade negotiator. Mr. Greer thoughtfully  
15          responded to all of the questions posed to him then and  
16          in subsequent questions for the record.

17          Based on his answers, conduct at the hearing, and  
18          my meeting with him, I am confident that Mr. Greer has  
19          the experience and determination to advocate  
20          successfully for American farmers, ranchers, workers,  
21          and manufacturers. Importantly, he was very clear that  
22          he is committed to reporting to and consulting with  
23          Congress.

24          Accordingly, I intend to vote in favor of Mr.  
25          Greer's nomination. I strongly encourage my colleagues

1 on both sides of the aisle to do the same.

2 And with that, I recognize our ranking member,

3 Senator Wyden.

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

3  
4               Senator Wyden. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.  
5       And, Mr. Chairman, since the committee last met to  
6       consider this nomination, the Trump trade agenda has  
7       continued to be a swampy mess. And you know, obviously  
8       they and the President are very good at getting  
9       headlines about trade, but we are still coming up way  
10      short in terms of getting any sense of what their trade  
11      plan is or who, if anybody, is in charge.

12              To sum up the first 3 weeks of Trump trade  
13      activity: no results, higher costs to American  
14      businesses and American families. Here is the evidence.  
15      There has been mass uncertainty since last week about  
16      how small packages from China and elsewhere would enter  
17      the country.

18              The chairman and I have talked a bit more about  
19      this, because this relates to our part of the world and  
20      fentanyl and the like, and this has led to a brief ban  
21      by the postal service on receiving packages from China  
22      at all, and then a rollback of the policy. No results,  
23      higher costs for American families and small businesses.

24              There have been new tariff threats against  
25      countries around the world, unclear under what law, and

1       which countries or products would be impacted. But if  
2       it is anything like the planned tariffs on Mexico and  
3       Canada, my view is that this proposal will once again  
4       clobber working Americans. No results, higher costs for  
5       American families and small businesses.

6               Now, as of yesterday, President Trump has slapped  
7       new tariffs on steel and aluminum imports. Now, I have  
8       supported tariffs on steel and aluminum in the past, and  
9       I believe that pursuing this area in a thoughtful way  
10      may show that new tariffs are needed in the future to  
11      level the playing field for American manufacturing.

12             Unfortunately, the Trump approach is not going to  
13      solve the biggest problem, which is China flooding the  
14      market with cheap steel, cheap aluminum, and eating up  
15      America's markets and driving down prices.

16             It is yet again wasting time on what amounts to  
17      big headlines, flashy headlines attacking Canada and  
18      other allies, instead of trying to help steelworkers on  
19      the front lines of a global economic war. Again, no  
20      results, higher costs for families and small businesses.

21             Now, as noted by the chairman, today the committee  
22      is going to vote on the nomination of Jamieson Greer to  
23      serve as U.S. Trade Representative. I want to make it  
24      clear that I have talked to Mr. Greer over the years and  
25      have always found him friendly and looking to be

1       constructive. I just have come to the conclusion that  
2       he is not going to influence the administration to make  
3       the global economy work better for typical Americans,  
4       and that he is just going to be unable to be the  
5       administration's leading voice on trade as the law  
6       requires.

7                If confirmed, I believe he is going to end up  
8       being a rubber stamp for more Trump trade chaos. The  
9       President campaigned on slapping blanket tariffs on all  
10      imported goods, imposing a multitrillion-dollar tax on  
11      everything American families buy from other countries --  
12      and obviously this would be money that would be used to  
13      pay for the tax breaks for billionaires.

14             As far as I can tell, Mr. Greer appears to be in  
15      lockstep with President Trump, including supporting the  
16      use of tariffs for revenues, which is a tax that hits  
17      working Americans the hardest. He seems to have no  
18      quarrel with Donald Trump's sweeping tariffs on Canada,  
19      Mexico, and China, with no strategy or plan to leverage  
20      them into trade wins for American stakeholders.

21             These tariffs have already halted investment in  
22      manufacturing. Let me say that again: these tariffs  
23      have already halted crucial investment in manufacturing,  
24      and fully imposed are going to cost the typical U.S.  
25      household over \$1,200 a year.

1 Targeted and strategic tariffs, in my view, can be  
2 a useful tool to address unfair trade practices and  
3 level the playing field for American workers and  
4 businesses. The sweeping tariffs Donald Trump has  
5 proposed and Mr. Greer seems to be supporting are going  
6 to jack up prices, cause shortages of necessities like  
7 health care and housing, and most importantly, drive up  
8 inflation. I simply do not have confidence that Mr.  
9 Greer will be in the room for important trade and tariff  
10 decisions, unlike previous representatives of this  
11 office.

12 He has said Donald Trump's use of tariffs to  
13 settle scores on issues unrelated to trade are not a  
14 trade issue, and therefore not something he would expect  
15 to be involved with if confirmed. It is unclear what  
16 influence over critical trade decisions Mr. Greer would  
17 have in the administration, or whether he would have any  
18 at all.

19 We need someone at USTR who does not pass the buck  
20 and is empowered to speak with authority, both to the  
21 Senate Finance Committee on the administration's trade  
22 policy, and to the President on the needs of the  
23 American people, particularly their needs on these  
24 crucial trade issues.

25 Mr. Greer is not that person, and I am going to

1 vote against him.

2 The Chairman. Thank you, Senator Wyden.

3 And I see there are no other Senators here to make  
4 a statement at this time. And so procedurally, unless  
5 there is an objection, the committee will recess and  
6 will reconvene to vote on the floor on the nomination at  
7 a time which is convenient. Members will be notified  
8 when that timing is confirmed.

9 Without objection, it is so ordered, and the  
10 committee stands in recess.

11 [Whereupon, at 11:40 a.m., the meeting was  
12 recessed.]

13

14 The open executive session was reconvened,  
15 pursuant to notice, on Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at  
16 11 a.m., in Room S-216, The President's Room, U.S.  
17 Capitol, Hon. Mike Crapo (chairman of the committee)  
18 presiding.

19 The Chairman. The committee will come to order.  
20 We now have a quorum. I move that we favorably report  
21 the nomination of Jamieson Greer.

22 Senator Grassley. Seconded.

23 The Chairman. The Clerk will call the roll.

24 The Clerk. Mr. Grassley?

25 Senator Grassley. Aye.



1           The Clerk.    Mr. Cornyn?  
2           Senator Cornyn.   Aye.  
3           The Clerk.    Mr. Thune?  
4           Senator Thune.    Aye.  
5           The Clerk.    Mr. Scott?  
6           Senator Scott.    Aye.  
7           The Clerk.    Mr. Cassidy?  
8           Senator Cassidy.   Aye.  
9           The Clerk.    Mr. Lankford?  
10          Senator Lankford.   Aye.  
11          The Clerk.    Mr. Daines?  
12          Senator Daines.   Aye.  
13          The Clerk.    Mr. Young?  
14          Senator Young.    Aye.  
15          The Clerk.    Mr. Barrasso?  
16          Senator Barrasso.   Aye.  
17          The Clerk.    Mr. Johnson?  
18          Senator Johnson.   Aye.  
19          The Clerk.    Mr. Tillis?  
20          Senator Tillis.    Aye.  
21          The Clerk.    Mrs. Blackburn?  
22          Senator Blackburn.   Aye.  
23          The Clerk.    Mr. Marshall?  
24          Senator Marshall.   Aye.  
25          The Clerk.    Senator Wyden?

1 Senator Wyden. Nay.

2 The Clerk. Ms. Cantwell?

3 Senator Cantwell. Nay.

4 The Clerk. Mr. Bennet?

5 Senator Bennet. Nay.

6 The Clerk. Mr. Warner?

7 Senator Warner. Nay.

8 The Clerk. Mr. Whitehouse?

9 Senator Whitehouse. Aye.

10 The Clerk. Ms. Hassan?

11 Senator Hassan. Nay.

12 The Clerk. Ms. Cortez Masto?

13 Senator Cortez Masto. Nay.

14 The Clerk. Ms. Warren?

15 Senator Warren. Nay.

16 The Clerk. Mr. Sanders?

17 Senator Wyden. Nay by proxy.

18 The Clerk. Ms. Smith?

19 Senator Wyden. Nay by proxy.

20 The Clerk. Mr. Luján?

21 Senator Wyden. Nay by proxy.

22 The Clerk. Mr. Warnock?

23 Senator Warnock. Nay.

24 The Clerk. Mr. Welch?

25 Senator Welch. Nay.

1           The Clerk.    Mr. Chairman?

2           The Chairman.   Aye.

3           The clerk will announce the vote.

4           The Clerk.    Mr. Chairman, the final tally is 15  
5 ayes and 12 nays.

6           The Chairman.   The "ayes" have it.

7           I thank my colleagues for their attendance.   The  
8 committee stands adjourned.

9           [Whereupon, at 11:42 a.m., the meeting was  
10 adjourned.]

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