

ORIGINAL

1 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING TO ADOPT SUBCOMMITTEES AND  
2 ASSIGNMENTS, DESIGNATION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO SERVE ON  
3 THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION, DESIGNATION OF COMMITTEE  
4 MEMBERS TO SERVE AS CONGRESSIONAL ADVISORS ON TRADE  
5 POLICY NEGOTIATIONS; ON TRADE MARKUP OF THE MISCELLANEOUS  
6 TRADE AND TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT OF 1999; AND TO  
7 CONSIDER THE NOMINATIONS OF SUSAN G. ESSERMAN, TO BE  
8 DEPUTY U.S. TRADE REPRESENTATIVE, WITH THE RANK OF  
9 AMBASSADOR; TIMOTHY F. GEITHNER, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF  
10 THE DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS;  
11 GARY S. GENSLER, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY  
12 FOR DOMESTIC FINANCE; EDWIN M. TRUMAN, TO BE ASSISTANT  
13 SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS; AND  
14 DAVID C. WILLIAMS, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR TAX  
15 ADMINISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY  
16 FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 1999  
17 U.S. Senate,  
18 Committee on Finance,  
19 Washington, DC.

Gilmour  
9 pp.

20 The meeting was convened, pursuant to notice, at  
21 10:18 a.m., in room SD-215, Dirksen Senate Office  
22 Building, Hon. William V. Roth, Jr. (Chairman of the  
23 Committee) presiding.

24 Also present: Senators Chafee, Grassley, Murkowski,  
25 Nickles, Gramm, Moynihan, Baucus, Rockefeller, Graham,

1 Bryan, and Robb.

2 Also present: Franklin Polk, Staff Director and  
3 Chief Counsel; Mark A. Patterson, Minority Staff Director  
4 and Chief Counsel.

5 Also present: Lindy Paull, Chief of Staff, Joint  
6 Committee on Taxation; Mark Prater, Tax Counsel,  
7 Majority; Grant Aldonas, Chief Trade Counsel; and Faryar  
8 Shirzad, International Trade Counsel.

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1 OPENING STATEMENT OF THE HON. WILLIAM V. ROTH, JR., A  
2 U.S. SENATOR FROM DELAWARE, CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON  
3 FINANCE  
4

5 The Chairman. The committee will please be in  
6 order.

7 I am going to try to expedite this whole procedure,  
8 if at all possible. We need 11. We have three separate  
9 parts to this meeting, the organizational meeting, the  
10 trade markup, and nominations markup.

11 So it is my hope that we can proceed on all three of  
12 these, as I know the administration is very anxious for  
13 us to move ahead with the nomination markup.

14 It is certainly critically important that we do  
15 something about the Miscellaneous Trade and Technical  
16 Corrections Act.

17 How many do we have now? We have eight. We need  
18 three more.

19 Let me welcome all of you back today. Of course,  
20 yesterday we did have a hearing, so this is not  
21 technically the first meeting. But it is important that  
22 we adopt the subcommittee and assignments.

23 There is a change in the subcommittee name. I think  
24 that involves yours, Senator from Alaska. Would you care  
25 to comment on that?

1           Senator Murkowski.   Thank you.   I would move to  
2   change the name of the Subcommittee on Long Term Growth  
3   Debt and Deficit Reduction to the Subcommittee on Long  
4   Term Growth and Debt Reduction.   The subcommittee was  
5   created in late 1980 at a time when Latin American debt  
6   and our deficit were significant problems.

7           I think it would be appropriate now to reflect  
8   today's realities if we changed the name to Long Term  
9   Growth and Debt Reduction, and take out deficit.   We may  
10   have to put it back someday, but for the time being, at  
11   least, it is behind us, and I would so move.

12          The Chairman.   We will withhold the vote on that  
13   until we get the quorum.

14          Senator Gramm.   Mr. Chairman?

15          The Chairman.   Yes, Senator Gramm.

16          Senator Gramm.   Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to note  
17   that the Banking Committee has submitted some questions  
18   to a couple of our nominees.   I intend to vote for them  
19   today, but I do want to remind them that we are going to  
20   expect them to answer those questions before these  
21   nominations would reach the floor.

22          The Chairman.   Duly noted.

23          Senator Murkowski.   Mr. Chairman, I would also like  
24   to welcome Senator Robb to the subcommittee.

25          The Chairman.   Well, we appreciate that.   As I

1 mentioned yesterday, we are delighted to have the  
2 distinguished Senator from Virginia as a member of this  
3 committee. He has already made some significant  
4 contributions, and we hope he enjoys this committee as  
5 much as a majority have in the past.

6 Senator Robb. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

7 The Chairman. Thank you.

8 We do have a quorum. I know, on the Democratic side,  
9 you have a conference. So what I would like to try and  
10 do, we have the organizational meeting, which includes  
11 the adoption of the subcommittee and assignments,  
12 including the change that was mentioned on the  
13 subcommittee name.

14 We also have the designation of committee members to  
15 serve on the Joint Committee on Taxation. That is  
16 myself, Senators Chafee, Grassley, Moynihan, and Baucus.

17 We have the designation of committee members to  
18 serve as Congressional advisors on trade policy and  
19 negotiations. That is myself, Senators Chafee, Grassley,  
20 Moynihan, and Baucus.

21 I would move the approval of these matters.

22 Senator Baucus. I second it.

23 The Chairman. Those in favor, signify by saying  
24 aye.

25 [Chorus of ayes]

1           The Chairman.   Those opposed, nay.

2           [No response]

3           The Chairman.   The ayes have it.   The organizational  
4 meeting is adopted, as proposed.

5           I mentioned that we do have a trade markup of the  
6 Miscellaneous Trade and Technical Corrections Act of  
7 1999.   This is essentially the same legislation as we  
8 acted on last year.   It is critically important that we  
9 move ahead on this.   I am hopeful that we can report this  
10 bill.

11          I think maybe Senator Chafee has one comment that he  
12 would like to make.

13          Senator Chafee.   Yes, Mr. Chairman.   First of all, I  
14 want to thank you and the Ranking Member for moving  
15 quickly on this tariff bill.   I did file an amendment,  
16 but, since you wish to move quickly, I am not going to  
17 offer the amendment.   I want to say a few words, if I  
18 might about the subject of U.S. marking laws on jewelry.

19          As we all know, U.S. law requires all imported goods  
20 to be marked with the country of origin.   This law is  
21 difficult to enforce with regard to jewelry, since  
22 jewelry is so small.   Customs allows tags or labels to be  
23 used to mark imported jewelry, but they often fall off or  
24 are removed.

25          Enforcing the marking law for jewelry is not a new

1 problem. We have been struggling with this for some  
2 time. Last fall, when the new commissioner of Customs,  
3 Mr. Kelly, came before this committee, I brought this  
4 problem to his attention and followed up with a letter  
5 asking what we might do to help ensure enforcement of the  
6 marking laws.

7 Commissioner Kelly responded with some reasonable  
8 suggestions. I believe that this problem, which is not  
9 complicated, can be solved. I would like to work with  
10 you, Mr. Chairman, and with the Ranking Member toward  
11 that end, namely, solution of this problem that is  
12 important to my State.

13 The Chairman. I would say to my distinguished  
14 colleague, it is an important matter. We will be happy  
15 to work with you in trying to find an equitable solution  
16 to the matter.

17 Senator Chafee. I want to thank you very much, Mr.  
18 Chairman. That thanks also goes to the Ranking Member  
19 for his assistance in this. Thank you.

20 The Chairman. If there are no further comments.

21 Senator Baucus. No further comments. Thank you,  
22 Mr. Chairman.

23 The Chairman. Those in favor of reporting out the  
24 Miscellaneous Trade and Technical Corrections Act of  
25 1999, please signify by saying aye.

1 [Chorus of ayes]

2 The Chairman. Opposed, nay.

3 [No response]

4 The Chairman. The ayes have it. It is so reported.

5 Finally, we come to the nomination markup of the  
6 five: Susan Esserman, to be Deputy U.S. Trade  
7 Representative, with the rank of Ambassador; Timothy  
8 Geithner, to be Under Secretary of the Department of  
9 Treasury for International Affairs; Gary S. Gensler, to  
10 be Under Secretary of the Treasury for Domestic Finance;  
11 Edwin M. Truman, to be Assistant Secretary of the  
12 Treasury for International Affairs; and David C.  
13 Williams, to be Inspector General for Tax Administration,  
14 Department of Treasury.

15 Senator Baucus. Mr. Chairman, I move that the  
16 committee favorably report the nominees.

17 Senator Chafee. I will second that.

18 The Chairman. Those in favor, signify by saying  
19 aye.

20 [Chorus of ayes]

21 The Chairman. Opposed, nay.

22 [No response]

23 The Chairman. They are so reported.

24 I appreciate your being here. We will have further  
25 meetings next week. Thank you very much.



1           [Whereupon, at 10:25 a.m., the meeting was  
2 concluded.]

**Senate Finance Committee  
Subcommittee Assignments for the 106th Congress**

**Health Care - Chairman Senator Chafee**

Senator Roth	Senator Rockefeller
Senator Jeffords	Senator Baucus
Senator Grassley	Senator Breaux
Senator Gramm	Senator Conrad
Senator Nickles	Senator Graham
Senator Hatch	Senator Bryan
Senator Thompson	Senator Kerrey

**International Trade - Chairman Senator Grassley**

Senator Thompson	Senator Moynihan
Senator Murkowski	Senator Baucus
Senator Roth	Senator Rockefeller
Senator Lott	Senator Breaux
Senator Gramm	Senator Conrad
Senator Hatch	Senator Graham
Senator Chafee	Senator Kerrey
Senator Jeffords	Senator Robb

**Social Security & Family Policy - Chairman Senator Nickles**

Senator Gramm	Senator Breaux
Senator Lott	Senator Moynihan
Senator Jeffords	Senator Rockefeller
Senator Chafee	Senator Kerrey
Senator Thompson	Senator Robb

**Taxation and IRS Oversight - Chairman Senator Hatch**

Senator Lott	Senator Baucus
Senator Nickles	Senator Moynihan
Senator Mack	Senator Conrad
Senator Murkowski	Senator Bryan
Senator Grassley	Senator Robb
Senator Thompson	

**Long-Term Growth & Debt Reduction-Chairman Senator Murkowski**

Senator Mack	Senator Graham
Senator Chafee	Senator Bryan