

1 OPEN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO ORGANIZE FOR THE 114TH CONGRESS
2 THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2015
3 U.S. Senate,
4 Committee on Finance,
5 Washington, DC.

6 The meeting was convened, pursuant to notice, at
7 10:43 a.m., in room 215, Dirksen Senate Office Building,
8 Hon. Orrin G. Hatch (chairman of the committee)
9 presiding.

10 Present: Senators Grassley, Crapo, Roberts, Cornyn,
11 Thune, Isakson, Coats, Heller, Scott, Wyden, Schumer,
12 Stabenow, Cantwell, Nelson, Menendez, Carper, Cardin,
13 Bennet, Casey, and Warner.

14 Also present: Republican Staff: Chris Campbell,
15 Staff Director; Everett Eissenstat, Chief International
16 Trade Counsel; Rebecca Eubank, International Trade
17 Analyst; Mark Prater, Deputy Staff Director and Chief Tax
18 Counsel; Preston Rutledge, Tax Counsel; and Jeff Wrase,
19 Chief Economist. Democratic Staff: Laura Bernsten,
20 Senior Advisor for Health and Human Services; Adam
21 Carasso, Senior Tax and Economic Advisor; Michael Evans,
22 Democratic General Counsel; Tom Klouda, Democratic Senior
23 Domestic Policy Advisor; Todd Metcalf, Democratic Chief
24 Tax Counsel; Joshua Sheinkman, Staff Director; Jayme
25 White, Democratic Chief Advisor for International

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1 Competitiveness and Innovation; and Joshua LeVasseur,
2 Chief Clerk.
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1 OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. ORRIN G. HATCH, A U.S. SENATOR
2 FROM UTAH, CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE

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4 The Chairman. The business before the Committee is
5 to organize for the 114th Congress.

6 To organize, the Committee must do a few things
7 today: adopt the Committee rules, authorize the Committee
8 budget, assign Senators to subcommittees of this
9 Committee, and designate Senators to serve on several
10 panels whose members are drawn from the members of the
11 Finance Committee.

12 Regarding the first item of business, the Committee
13 rules, all Senators should have a copy of the proposed
14 Committee rules in the materials before them.

15 I would just like to note that the materials before
16 you all contain a change to the previous set of rules.
17 Specifically, they contain a change to Rule 18 regarding
18 the posting of transcripts for all Committee meetings.

19 The change will allow the Committee to continue
20 posting transcripts of all executive sessions on the
21 Committee website and to ensure that we are not in
22 violation of Rule 18 when they remain on the website
23 after the end of the Congress following the date of the
24 meeting.

25 I will now entertain a motion concerning the rules.

1 Senator Wyden. Mr. Chairman, I would move that the
2 Committee now adopt the Committee rules.

3 The Chairman. Is there any debate?

4 [No Response.]

5 The Chairman. Seeing none, if there is no further
6 debate, then without objection, the Committee rules are
7 adopted.

8 The next order of business is to report the
9 Committee budget. All Senators should have before them a
10 copy of the proposed resolution concerning funding for
11 the Committee operations.

12 I will now entertain a motion concerning the budget.

13 Senator Wyden. Mr. Chairman, I would move that the
14 Committee report the Committee resolution concerning the
15 budget at this time.

16 The Chairman. Is there any debate?

17 [No Response.]

18 The Chairman. If there is no further debate, then
19 without objection, the Committee budget is ordered
20 reported.

21 The next order of business is to assign Senators to
22 subcommittees of this Committee. Senators have before
23 them the list of Senators on each subcommittee and should
24 be aware of the assignments.

25 I will now entertain a motion to make those

1 assignments.

2 Senator Wyden. Mr. Chairman, I would move to make
3 those assignments.

4 The Chairman. I thank the Ranking Member.

5 If there is no further debate, then, without
6 objection, the Committee assigns the Senators to the
7 subcommittees listed.

8 The next order of business is to designate Finance
9 Committee members on the Joint Committee on Taxation, on
10 the Congressional Oversight Group, and as Congressional
11 Trade Advisors on Trade Policy and Negotiations.

12 By statute and tradition, the Committee designates
13 its most senior and eligible five Senators to fill these
14 roles. That is the designation proposed in the papers
15 before every Senator.

16 I will now entertain a motion to make those
17 designations.

18 Senator Wyden. Mr. Chairman, I would move to make
19 those designations at this time.

20 The Chairman. I thank the distinguished Ranking
21 Member.

22 If there is no further debate, then without
23 objection, the Committee designates those Senators for
24 the panels listed.

25 I want to thank all Senators.

1 [Whereupon, at 10:47 a.m., the Open Executive
2 Session was concluded.]