

Senator Bob Dole

Introduction of Robert Lighthizer

Senate Finance Committee

March 14, 2017

Chairman Hatch, members of the Committee, it is indeed a pleasure to return to the Finance Committee to introduce Robert Lighthizer, a man many of you know well.

President Trump has nominated Bob to serve as the United States Trade Representative. As you know, Bob served as the Staff Director to the Committee, and I had the opportunity to work closely with him in that capacity.

After he left the Senate, Bob then went on to serve as a Deputy United States Trade Representative with the rank of Ambassador during the Reagan Administration. Bob had responsibility within the USTR for industry, agriculture, investment and trade policy matters. During his tenure, Bob was involved in all the important trade issues of the day. He regularly attended and chaired subcabinet policy meetings and often attended cabinet meetings when the USTR was unavailable. In addition, Bob negotiated some two dozen bilateral international agreements on subjects ranging from steel to grain.

Most recently, Bob was a Partner at the law firm of Skadden, Arps where he led the firm's International Trade practice group.

Chairman Hatch, as you know, the United States is the world's largest trading nation. As such, trade is critical to our prosperity. In 2013, exports of goods and services totaled nearly \$2.3 trillion and supported an estimated 11.3 million jobs. In addition to securing access to these export markets for the products produced by our workers and farmers, the USTR plays a pivotal

role in protecting the intellectual property developed by our academics and entrepreneurs, and defending our domestic and export markets against unfair trade practices.

As a Kansan, I am particularly concerned about agriculture trade. A significant percentage of our production is exported, including half of the nation's wheat crop.

I am confident that Bob Lighthizer is uniquely qualified to serve the President and all Americans well as the U.S. Trade Representative. I encourage members of this Committee to unanimously support this highly qualified nominee.

Thank you.

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