

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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The Honorable Orrin Hatch
Chairman
Committee on Finance
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ron Wyden
Ranking Minority Member
Committee on Finance
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the world's largest business federation representing the interests of more than three million businesses of all sizes, sectors, and regions, as well as state and local chambers of commerce and industry associations, and dedicated to promoting, protecting, and defending America's free enterprise system, wishes to express its views on the nomination of Robert Lighthizer to be U.S. Trade Representative.

As the Members of the Senate Committee on Finance know, international trade is essential to America's prosperity, and it is imperative that we do more to open foreign markets to American-made manufactured goods, agricultural products, and services. Properly negotiated trade agreements play an essential role in this regard. However, these agreements are not worth the paper they are written on if they aren't enforced.

American workers, farmers, and leaders of companies of all sizes recognize that the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative plays a critical role in advancing trade policies that foster U.S. economic growth and job creation. As the president's chief trade advisor, the U.S. Trade Representative plays a central role negotiating and enforcing U.S. trade agreements.

Mr. Lighthizer has led a distinguished career as a trade policy practitioner and has a reputation as a staunch advocate for American industry. The Chamber believes he will represent the nation's interests well as he works with international partners and addresses trade challenges at the negotiating table and before the World Trade Organization. The Chamber encourages a swift vote on his nomination and looks forward to working with him as the next U.S. Trade Representative.

Sincerely,



cc: Members of the Committee on Finance