

1 BUSINESS MEETING ON PENDING NOMINATIONS

2 - - -

3 MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2017

4 United States Senate,
5 Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry,
6 Washington, D.C.

7 The Committee met, pursuant to notice, at 5:49 p.m., in
8 Room S-216, The Capitol, Hon. Pat Roberts, Chairman of the
9 Committee, presiding.

10 Present: Roberts, Boozman, Hoeven, Ernst, Grassley,
11 Thune, Perdue, Strange, Stabenow, Brown, Klobuchar, Bennet,
12 Donnelly, Heitkamp, and Casey.

13 Chairman Roberts. I now call to order a business
14 meeting of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition
15 and Forestry.

16 The purpose of this meeting is to consider the
17 nomination of Stephen Censky to serve as the Deputy
18 Secretary of Agriculture, and the nomination of Ted McKinney
19 to serve as Undersecretary for Trade and Agricultural
20 Affairs.

21 Mr. Censky and Mr. McKinney's individual and collective
22 experience in agriculture will greatly benefit the USDA, and
23 the people the department serves. Mr. Censky's history at
24 the American Soybean Association, and Mr. McKinney's
25 experience as the Director of the Indiana State Department

1 of Agriculture, combined with their testimony before this
2 committee, and their answers to members' questions for the
3 record, show that they are abundantly qualified to lead the
4 USDA and tackle the challenges that lay ahead. I fully
5 support both of these nominations.

6 And, I would note that both of these nominees have the
7 support of over 100 -- 100, not 99, not 101 -- 100
8 agriculture and food stakeholders. I would like to enter
9 the letters of support into the record.

10 [The letters follow:]

11 / COMMITTEE INSERT

1 Chairman Roberts. I now recognize the distinguished
2 Ranking Member for any comments she may have.

3 Senator Stabenow. I would concur with the Chairman's
4 comments and I would move the vote.

5 Chairman Roberts. The motion is in order and the
6 distinguished Ranking Member has made the motion to approve
7 the nominations of Stephen Censky to serve as the Deputy
8 Secretary of Agriculture, and Ted McKinney to serve as
9 Undersecretary for Trade and Agricultural Affairs.

10 Is there a second?

11 Senator Thune. Second.

12 Chairman Roberts. All those in favor say aye.

13 [Chorus of ayes.]

14 Chairman Roberts. Opposed, say nay.

15 [No audible response.]

16 Chairman Roberts. The ayes have it. The nominations
17 are approved.

18 The business meeting is now adjourned.

19 [Whereupon, at 5:50 p.m., the Committee was adjourned.]