

Opening Statement

June 4, 2025

Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science,
and Related Agencies

Subcommittee Hearing Opening Statement

Chairman Moran, Ranking Member Van Hollen, and Members of the
Subcommittee – it is an honor to join you today.

America is once again the most attractive destination for investment in the world. Under President Trump's leadership, the Department of Commerce is strengthening American industry from the most popular to those industries long ignored. We are focused on building in America and driving our economic growth, which will narrow the deficit and deliver a new era of American innovation.

Businesses are no longer looking overseas — they are choosing to invest in America first. Through the President's executive order establishing the Investment Accelerator, the Department of Commerce has already secured trillions of dollars in new commitments from world-class companies and sovereign wealth funds eager to build and invest here in the United States.

This surge in investment, paired with a renewed commitment to fair and reciprocal trade, is reigniting American manufacturing. We're bringing car manufacturing back to Michigan and Ohio. We're reopening steel mills in Pennsylvania. Just last month, Arizona welcomed the largest semiconductor investment in its history, thanks to investments from TSMC.

The first deals we are improving now have commitments of more than \$300 billion of investment in the U.S., double the previous investment from these companies receiving CHIPS Act awards, without costing a single additional tax dollar from the American taxpayer. Our Commerce Department is driving substantial investments across America.

Critically, the President's America First agenda goes beyond just economic growth and investment. The President is taking concrete actions to protect American workers and our national security. Under Section 232, the Commerce Department is conducting numerous investigations to protect, reshore, and revive manufacturing capacity across critical industries.

The Trump Administration is imposing tariffs and ending loopholes. In April, we ended the de minimis loophole, which allowed foreign companies to avoid paying tariffs on small shipments undercutting American small businesses. New export controls are protecting cutting-edge technologies and finally protecting critical industries and American

innovation. In fact, the Bureau of Industry and Security, working with our partners in the Department of Justice, has secured 22 criminal convictions, 32 arrests, 38 indictments, 231 detentions - valued at more than \$185,500,000 - and 79 seizures valued at more than \$40,000,000.

Under this administration, the USPTO is tackling a mountain of unexamined patent applications left by the Biden administration—successfully reducing inventory backlog for the first time in four years. In the past four months, we have removed 50,000 fraudulent goods and services from the Trademark Register that blocked the use of legitimate products by American businesses. Many of these purported trademarks came from “specimen farms” that create fake websites to display products that aren’t for sale.

At NOAA, we are transforming how we track storms and forecast weather with cutting-edge technology. To improve the understanding and prediction of how hurricanes intensify, this season NOAA’s research centers will deploy new small aircraft drone systems and additional underwater gliders. This year, the National Weather Service will be running an experimental AI-based forecast system and all data will be publicly available. Together this commitment to innovation means earlier warnings and increased accuracy for Americans no matter where they may live.

For far too long, America has been unfairly treated by foreign nations because we allowed them to take advantage of our markets to the

detriment of our own American workers and industry. Thanks to President Trump and this administration's efforts, we are reversing this trend by reshoring critical manufacturing, eliminating unfair trade barriers and practices, and investing in our American workforce. With your help, we will deliver growth and prosperity across our great nation.