

PETER G. PETERSON

January 10, 2017

The Honorable John Thune
Chairman
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
512 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bill Nelson
Ranking Member
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
425 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Thune and Ranking Member Nelson:

I write in support of Wilbur Ross as our next Secretary of the United States Department of Commerce.

As a former Commerce Secretary, I am confident that the Department and the nation will benefit greatly from Wilbur's wisdom, experience and integrity. Wilbur possesses a vast knowledge base and extensive business expertise across multiple sectors, which will serve him well in guiding policies that spur economic growth and create jobs.

Importantly, Wilbur has earned a reputation as an honest negotiator who is open to all good ideas, and he has successfully built relationships across the political aisle. Following in the tradition of former Commerce Secretaries like Don Evans, Robert Mosbacher, and Bill Daley, Wilbur's collaborative approach will help foster progress in areas like innovation, competitiveness, and widely-shared economic opportunity.

Wilbur is an excellent choice for this critically important role for America's economy, and I hope you will give him every consideration.

Sincerely,



Peter G. Peterson

U.S. Secretary of Commerce, 1972-73