

DONALD L. EVANS

RECEIVED JAN 03 2017

December 20, 2016

Senator John Thune, Chair
U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation
512 Dirksen Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Thune,

It is a pleasure for me to highly recommend Mr. Wilbur Ross to you to serve as the 39th Secretary for the U.S. Department of Commerce.

I have known Mr. Ross for over 16 years and can attest to the fact that he possesses the qualities that are critical to managing this unique Department and its diverse agencies. As an outstanding leader in the business community, he brings with him a wealth of experience that is a natural fit for the Department's mission of promoting the interests of America's private sector business both here and abroad.

As you know, I had the honor of serving as the 34th Secretary of Commerce, and in that capacity had an opportunity to meet with thousands of men and women who are running America's companies, hiring American workers and providing the economic engine of our country. As a successful entrepreneur, Mr. Ross has a keen understanding of the challenges that businesses of all sizes face in this competitive global economy, and I am confident his experience will prove to be invaluable as Secretary of Commerce.

Most importantly, I know Mr. Ross as a true patriot — a man who has the best interest of our great country at heart. He will always put America first. He will serve as an outstanding leader as the next Secretary of Commerce.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Respectfully yours,



Donald L. Evans