



Committee: Senate Finance Committee

Event: [Full Committee Hearing to Consider Pending Nominations](#)

Date: June 25, 2026

Executive Summary:

On Thursday, June 25, 2026, the Senate Finance Committee hosted a brief hearing to consider the following five nominees: **David Foley, Brett Doyle, Peter-Anthony Pappas, Bartholomew Thanhauser, and Samuel Negatu** to serve as International Trade Commission (ITC) Commissioners. Discussion highlighted the value of the ITC's independent, nonpartisan research and trade enforcement responsibilities, as well as the value of proactive stakeholder engagement.

Member Toplines:

[Chair Mike Crapo \(R-ID\)](#): Crapo introduced the nominees and stressed the importance of fully staffing the ITC, noting its role in trade enforcement. He acknowledged the value of ITC's fair trade investigations, economic analysis, and their role in overseeing the Harmonized Tariff Schedule. Crapo then asked the nominees if anything in their background may present a conflict of interest, or if anything would inhibit their ability to enact the duties of the office. The panel answered no. He asked the nominees if they would be able to testify before Congress and if they could commit to promptly responding to Senate questions in writing. The nominees answered yes.

[Ranking Member Ron Wyden \(D-OR\)](#): Wyden arrived $\frac{2}{3}$ of the way through the hearing. He touted the importance of the ITC's trade enforcement and analysis, citing agricultural challenges and the ITC's recent report on censorship being a barrier to digital trade. He emphasized that Congress must play a larger role in setting trade policy.

Witness Toplines:

[David Foley, Jr., Nominee to be a Member of ITC](#): Foley asserted that free trade must be reciprocal. Foley provided an overview of his professional career, noting that he studied the national security importance of trade controls and the impact of supply chain vulnerabilities while attending the National Intelligence University.

[Brett Doyle, Nominee to be a Member of ITC](#): Doyle thanked the Committee for the opportunity to learn trade policy firsthand, citing his work as a staffer on the *Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act*, the *Trade Preferences Extension Act*, and the *Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015*. He emphasized the importance of trade and manufacturing policy and his commitment to the Commission's responsibilities.

[Peter-Anthony Pappas, Nominee to be a Member of ITC](#): Pappas highlighted the Constitution's protection of intellectual property (IP) under Article I, Section 8, Clause 8 and stressed the importance of strong IP rights.

[Bartholomew Thanhauser, Nominee to be a Member of ITC](#): Thanhauser stressed his commitment to upholding the independence and objectivity of the Commission. He reiterated the ITC's responsibility in administering U.S. trade remedy laws, including addressing IP violations. He touted his experience serving as a trade negotiator for the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR).

[Samuel Negatu, Nominee to be a Member of ITC](#): Negatu provided an overview of his background, including his tenure at USTR. He emphasized the ITC's role in supporting a rules-based trading system via its research and expertise.

Major Takeaways:

- Crapo had the nominees attest to their commitment to providing nonpartisan, factual analysis within their reports, as well as their U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement advisory responsibilities.
- Wyden had the nominees attest to their commitment to proactively mitigating trade threats. Pappas acknowledged the value of proactive stakeholder engagement.
- Wyden asked Negatu how he plans to respond to bad actors, such as China. Negatu affirmed that China's industrial capacity presents unique challenges and stressed his commitment to applying the ITC's statutory standards.
- Wyden asked about the value of the ITC's trade enforcement efforts. Foley stressed that the ITC can provide industry with definitive answers and supply the factual records to back up their actions.
- Sen. **Roger Marshall** (R-KS) had Foley and Pappas attest to the applicability of their IP expertise. Foley noted that the ITC's 337 docket lacks mandated completion and hopes to accelerate the process to match the rate of technology innovation.
- Marshall raised prescription drug price concerns and requested further information for the record.
- Doyle emphasized the importance of reviewing domestic trade law vulnerabilities and loopholes.
- Sen. **Thom Tillis** (R-NC) noted the Committee's work on a private right of action to respond to Chinese IP theft. He asked for creative ideas on holding bad actors accountable. Pappas reiterated the value of proactive, stakeholder engagement in responding to IP threats.
- Sen. **Catherine Cortez Masto** (D-NV) had the panel attest to the value of an objective, independent ITC.
- Masto raised the ITC's investigation on quartz surface products and flagged concerns that the proposed tariff rate will compound mounting residential construction costs. She requested that the nominees commit to future stakeholder engagement and understanding downstream costs.