

Stenographic Transcript
Before the

COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

UNITED STATES SENATE

BUSINESS MEETING

MONDAY, JULY 21, 2025

Washington, D.C.

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BUSINESS MEETING

Monday, July 21, 2025

U.S. Senate
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
Washington, D.C.

The committee met, pursuant to notice, at 5:58 p.m., in Room S-216, President's Room, Hon. John Boozman, Chairman of the Committee, presiding.

Present: Senators Boozman [presiding], McConnell, Hoeven, Ernst, Marshall, Tuberville, Justice, Grassley, Thune, Fischer, Moran, Klobuchar, Bennet, Smith, and Slotkin.

1 OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR BOOZMAN

2 Chairman Boozman. I call this business meeting of the
3 Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry to
4 order. The purpose of this meeting is to consider the
5 nominations of Mr. Dudley Hoskins to serve as Under
6 Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Regulatory
7 Programs, and Dr. Scott Hutchins to serve as Under Secretary
8 for Research, Education, and Economics.

9 I support both these individuals and believe their
10 qualifications, experience in the private sector, and their
11 public service make them well suited for these roles.

12 I now recognize the distinguished Senator from
13 Minnesota, Senator Klobuchar, for any comments she would
14 like to make.

1 STATEMENT OF SENATOR KLOBUCHAR

2 Senator Klobuchar. Thank you, Mister Chair. While
3 there were some nominees on the agenda that I did not
4 support, I do support these two. I believe Mr. Hoskins is
5 qualified, and we have threats like avian flu and market
6 opportunities out there that we have to seize on. I believe
7 Dr. Hutchins is qualified, and I look forward to working
8 with him to ensure the best ag research possible, including
9 for our land grant institutions. I do remain concerned that
10 the USDA is not moving forward in a timely manner to get out
11 mandated dollars for competitive research programs, and I
12 urge USDA to be responsive to our request and hope that this
13 nominee will help us to get that done.

14 Chairman Boozman. Thank you, Senator Klobuchar.

15 Seeing a quorum is present, is there a motion to
16 proceed to consider the nominations?

17 Senator Marshall. I so move.

18 Chairman Boozman. Thank you. Is there a second?

19 Senator Fischer. Second.

20 Chairman Boozman. Thank you. Beginning with the
21 nomination of Dudley Hoskins, the clerk will call the roll.

22 The Clerk. Senator Klobuchar?

23 Senator Klobuchar. Aye.

24 The Clerk. Senator Bennet?

25 Senator Bennet. Aye.

1 The Clerk. Senator Smith?
2 Senator Smith. Aye.
3 The Clerk. Senator Durbin?
4 Senator Klobuchar. Aye by proxy.
5 The Clerk. Senator Booker?
6 Senator Klobuchar. No by proxy.
7 The Clerk. Senator Luján?
8 Senator Klobuchar. Aye by proxy.
9 The Clerk. Senator Warnock?
10 Senator Klobuchar. Aye by proxy.
11 The Clerk. Senator Welch?
12 Senator Klobuchar. No by proxy.
13 The Clerk. Senator Fetterman?
14 Senator Klobuchar. No by proxy.
15 The Clerk. Senator Schiff?
16 Senator Klobuchar. Aye by proxy.
17 The Clerk. Senator Slotkin?
18 Senator Slotkin. Aye.
19 The Clerk. Senator McConnell?
20 Senator McConnell. Aye.
21 The Clerk. Senator Hoeven?
22 Senator Hoeven. Aye.
23 The Clerk. Senator Ernst?
24 Senator Ernst. Aye.
25 The Clerk. Senator Hyde-Smith?

1 Senator Boozman. Aye by proxy.

2 The Clerk. Senator Marshall?

3 Senator Marshall. Aye.

4 The Clerk. Senator Tuberville?

5 Senator Tuberville. Aye.

6 The Clerk. Senator Justice?

7 Senator Justice. Aye.

8 The Clerk. Senator Grassley?

9 Senator Grassley. Aye.

10 The Clerk. Senator Thune?

11 Senator Thune. Aye.

12 The Clerk. Senator Fischer?

13 Senator Fischer. Aye.

14 The Clerk. Senator Moran?

15 Senator Moran. Aye.

16 The Clerk. Senator Boozman?

17 Chairman Boozman. Aye.

18 The Clerk. The ayes are 20, the nays are 3.

19 Chairman Boozman. On this vote, the ayes are 20 and
20 the nays are 3. The nomination is approved.

21 We will now proceed to considering the nomination of
22 Scott Hutchins. The clerk will call the roll.

23 The Clerk. Senator Klobuchar?

24 Senator Klobuchar. Aye.

25 The Clerk. Senator Bennet?

1 Senator Bennet. Aye.
2 The Clerk. Senator Smith?
3 Senator Smith. Aye.
4 The Clerk. Senator Durbin?
5 Senator Klobuchar. No by proxy.
6 The Clerk. Senator Booker?
7 Senator Klobuchar. No by proxy.
8 The Clerk. Senator Luján?
9 Senator Klobuchar. Aye by proxy.
10 The Clerk. Senator Warnock?
11 Senator Klobuchar. Aye by proxy.
12 The Clerk. Senator Welch?
13 Senator Klobuchar. No by proxy.
14 The Clerk. Senator Fetterman?
15 Senator Klobuchar. Aye by proxy.
16 The Clerk. Senator Schiff?
17 Senator Klobuchar. Aye by proxy.
18 The Clerk. Senator Slotkin?
19 Senator Slotkin. Aye.
20 The Clerk. Senator McConnell?
21 Senator McConnell. Aye.
22 The Clerk. Senator Hoeven?
23 Senator Hoeven. Aye.
24 The Clerk. Senator Ernst?
25 Senator Ernst. Aye.

1 The Clerk. Senator Hyde-Smith?

2 Senator Boozman. Aye by proxy.

3 The Clerk. Senator Marshall?

4 Senator Marshall. Aye.

5 The Clerk. Senator Tuberville?

6 Senator Tuberville. Aye.

7 The Clerk. Senator Justice?

8 Senator Justice. Aye.

9 The Clerk. Senator Grassley?

10 Senator Grassley. Aye.

11 The Clerk. Senator Thune?

12 Senator Thune. Aye.

13 The Clerk. Senator Fischer?

14 Senator Fischer. Aye.

15 The Clerk. Senator Moran?

16 Senator Moran. Aye.

17 The Clerk. Senator Boozman?

18 Chairman Boozman. Aye.

19 The Clerk. The ayes are 20, the nays are 3.

20 Senator Boozman. On this vote, the ayes are 20 and the
21 nays are 3. The nomination is approved.

22 Thank you. The business meeting is now adjourned.

23 [Whereupon, at 6:02 p.m., the Committee was adjourned.]

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