

Statement of
Philip E. Coyle, III
Associate Director-designate
Office of Science and Technology Policy
Executive Office of the President
before the
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.
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Chairman Rockefeller, Ranking Member Hutchinson, it is a pleasure and an honor to appear before you today as President Obama's nominee to be Associate Director for National Security and International Affairs in the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

If confirmed, I will consider it an honor to serve the President, his Science Advisor, Dr. John P. Holdren, and to work with you and your colleagues to ensure that our national investments in science and technology serve the American people; to develop science and technology programs that will increase American productivity and drive economic growth; to improve the nation's health; to provide new sources of energy and to protect the environment; and, in particular, to safeguard U.S. national security, to protect our troops, and to improve verification of arms control and nonproliferation agreements.

Mr. Chairman, my wife, Dr. Martha Krebs, was not able to be here today. Martha had the great pleasure of working for Senator Nelson, then Representative Nelson, on the House Science Committee. My wife and I share a lifetime of service to our country. Among other things, Martha is a former Assistant Secretary of Energy for Science.

I was recently asked which aspects of my experience have prepared me for the position to which I have been nominated. Looking back over my career, I realized that every one of the jobs I have held since 1959 has helped to prepare me for the position for which I have been nominated. If confirmed, I will leverage my 33 years with the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, from which I retired as deputy to the Director. Additionally, my background includes service as Assistant Secretary and Director Operational Test and Evaluation in the U.S. Department of Defense; Deputy Assistant Secretary for Defense Programs, U.S. Department of Energy; work with private industry; and most recently with a non-governmental organization, the World Security Institute. If I am confirmed, this would be an opportunity to serve my country once again, to contribute to the national security of the United States, to help support science and technology for America's present needs and future development, and to help foster international science and technology collaboration to advance U.S. foreign-policy objectives.

We must make every effort to ensure we strengthen America's innovations in science and technology. Our national security is dependent on these innovative forces. American military technology is the envy of the world, and America's research and development enterprise is indispensable to our future. American private industry has played a key role in developing products and services that improve the quality of our lives, strengthen our economy, and protect us. Equally important are America's colleges and universities, which provide essential contributions to basic research and help young people understand the power of modern science. If confirmed, I will work with government scientists, policy makers, private industry, and educators to apply their skills and experience to the many national security challenges our nation faces.

If confirmed by the Senate, I look forward to working with the exceptional national security and international affairs teams assembled by President Obama, with the Congress, and particularly with the members and staff of this committee on the national security challenges and opportunities facing our nation. I am grateful for the courtesy shown by your staff over the past several weeks, and I look forward to working with you and them in the future.

I am pleased to answer any questions you may have.