

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION**

Full Committee
Nomination Hearing
Wednesday, December 3, 2025, at 10:00 A.M.

REPUBLICAN QUESTIONS FOR THE RECORD

Mr. Steven Haines

COVER PAGE

SENATOR ROGER WICKER (R-MS)

Question #1:

Recent global events have highlighted risks in our supply chains. These events, such as natural disasters and the COVID-19 pandemic, caused significant delays and shortages. These obstacles can cause consumers in the U.S. to have to pay higher prices for everyday goods and lack access to critical products, such as medical supplies. The U.S. is heavily reliant on single countries for critical supply chain segments, including manufacturing components, critical minerals, and active pharmaceutical ingredients. This concentration poses a significant risk of disruption. Reported estimates suggest that more than 90 percent of US manufacturing companies do not have complete visibility throughout their entire supply chain.

The Industry & Analysis (I&A) unit at the International Trade Administration houses a dedicated Supply Chain Center charged with increasing the resilience of critical supply chains, integrating industry expertise and data analytics to develop supply-chain risk-assessment tools. The unit develops innovative supply chain risk assessment tools and coordinates case studies on critical supply chains.

Question: Mr. Haines, as the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Industry and Analysis, you would drive policy for US manufacturing industries and supply chains. What actions do you think are necessary to rebuild domestic manufacturing capacity and advance US supply chain resiliency?

Do you agree that strengthening America's supply chains will ensure our economic competitiveness?

Answer: I believe that strengthening America's supply chains is critical to our competitiveness and our national security.

If I am confirmed as Assistant Secretary for Industry & Analysis, I will be charged with helping the Administration implement the America First Trade Policy and strengthen critical supply chains.

As Assistant Secretary, I will ensure that I&A provides the most sophisticated analysis possible on supply chains, and works closely with American companies to make their supply chains stronger and more resilient by developing enhanced data resources and tools.

SENATOR TODD YOUNG (R-IN)

1. ITA's mandate is to support U.S. industry competitiveness, but it increasingly has to supply analysis for tariff actions and inclusion decisions that are justified on national security grounds.

Question: If confirmed, how do you envision using ITA's analysis within the existing petition-and-comment process for tariff inclusions to ensure that decisions are grounded in clear, consistently applied criteria rather than trending over time toward very broad or automatic coverage of petitions?

Answer: If confirmed as Assistant Secretary for Industry & Analysis, I will ensure that any future role I&A plays in any tariff inclusion process is grounded in clear, consistently applied, and evidence-based criteria. This includes a focus on objective factors such as U.S. and allied production capacity, lead times, quality requirements, and risks of circumvention or over-reliance on non-market economies.