**Crapo Statement at Executive Session to Vote on Nominees**

WASHINGTON – U.S. Senator Mike Crapo (R-Idaho), Chairman of the United States Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs, today delivered the following opening remarks during an executive session to vote on Ms. Sigal Mandelker, of New York, to be Under Secretary of the Treasury for Terrorism and Financial Crimes, Ms. Mira Ricardel, of California, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Export Administration, Mr. Marshall Billingslea, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Terrorist Financing, and Mr. Heath Tarbert, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for International Markets and Development.

The text of Chairman Crapo’s remarks, as prepared, is below.

“I call the Committee to order and move to executive session.

“Today the Committee will vote on the President’s nominations to lead several important national security offices in the Treasury and Commerce Departments.

“The Committee held a hearing on these nominations last Tuesday. During that hearing, it was demonstrated that we are voting today on four highly qualified individuals that will uphold the law and prioritize law enforcement and national security issues faced by this country and its policymakers every day.

“Each of the nominees benefit from extensive and diverse public and private sector backgrounds.

“All four of these positions are critically important to protecting our national security, and I hope that informs the Committee’s decision to move these nominations along.

“I am supporting these nominations today and I hope to see them fully confirmed expeditiously on the Senate floor so that they can carry out their important missions.”

###