U.S. Senate Committee on Finance
Tuesday, November 10, 2026
Hearing to Consider the Pending Nominations of Francis Browne; Christopher Abbott; and Robert Stebbins

Questions for the Record submitted to Christopher Abbott from Senator Grassley.

Question 1: I recently led a letter to the Department of Commerce on behalf of the Iowa congressional delegation concerning a trade dispute that has arisen between the United States and Mexico. In retaliation for tariffs the U.S. has imposed on certain seasonal agricultural imports from Mexico, Mexico has launched an investigation into antidumping and countervailing duties against U.S. pork products. It's a big concern for Iowa pig farmers that Mexico could issue tariffs against U.S. pork products. If confirmed, will you work to bring an end to the tit-for-tat agricultural trade investigations between the United States and Mexico?

Question 2: In your work for the Department of Commerce, you have specifically sought to address the transshipment of products subject to antidumping and countervailing duties. China has been one of the worst offenders of shipping their subsidized products through third party countries before entering the United States. Transshipment is an issue that not only undermines global fair trade but also hurts domestic manufacturers.

Could you please expand on the work you have done to address this issue? Is there more the United States could be doing to encourage our trading partners to recognize U.S. antidumping and countervailing duties against China?

Questions for the Record submitted to Robert Stebbins from Senator Grassley.

Question 1: I authored the 2006 IRS Whistleblower law which has brought in over $8 billion to the Treasury. The program has been an unqualified success, despite some initial resistance to the program within the IRS. However, more and more it appears the IRS is recognizing the importance of the program. I was pleased to read that Jarod Koopman – the Chief Tax Compliance Officer – expressed his support for the IRS whistleblower program in a speech this past September. Particularly important was Mr. Koopman's statement that he's making it a priority to pay whistleblower awards quickly. Years of delay have been a long-time problem for the IRS.

Should you be confirmed, can I count on you and your office to work with the IRS and Mr. Koopman to ensure prompt payment of awards?

Questions for the Record submitted to Francis Browne from Senator Grassley.

Question 1: The Treasury Secretary has expressed support for targeting deficits of 3 percent of gross domestic product (GDP), which roughly aligns with the post-World War II average. The

Fiscal Year 2026 deficit was 6.2 percent of GDP. As Undersecretary for Domestic Finance, you will be the Secretary's top advisor for fiscal and economic policy.

In your view, are 3 percent of GDP deficits attainable through economic growth alone, or will fiscal adjustments also be necessary? What - in your understanding - are the primary drivers of our annual deficits?