

Trump chief economic advisor tapped as Secretary of Commerce

Policy positions of Trump's Secretary of Commerce

Secretary of Commerce



Wilbur Ross
Chairman and CEO, INVESCO
Private Capital

Issue	Stance	Details
NAFTA renegotiation	Supports	During his confirmation hearing, Wilbur Ross stated that his first priority as Secretary of Commerce would be to renegotiate NAFTA
Use of tariffs on China and Mexico	Unclear	Ross noted during his confirmation hearing that while he does not support unilateral, pre-emptive tariffs similar to the ones proposed by Trump during the campaign, but he would consider them
TPP	Against	While initially supporting it, Ross noted that there were several aspects of TPP which he disagreed with
Additional tax credits	Supports	Ross supports providing businesses with additional tax credits because he believes it is the best method of stimulating the infrastructure market
Anti-dumping steel measures	Supports	Ross believes that anti-dumping steel measures towards China should be implemented

Sources: New York Times, "Wilbur Ross vows to push Trump's trade agenda, starting with NAFTA," January 17, 2017; CNBC, "Commerce nominee Wilbur Ross: Trade partners have to play by our rules," January 18, 2017; Washington Post, "Commerce nominee Ross says top priority is renegotiating NAFTA," January 18, 2017; Wall Street Journal, "Commerce Secretary nominee Ross offers preview of trade policy," January 18, 2017.

Trump has tapped one of his chief economic advisors as secretary of commerce

Bio of Trump's nominee for commerce secretary

Secretary of Commerce



Wilbur Ross
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Previous positions	Bio
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Founder and CEO of WL Ross & Co. LLC • Chairman of Nippon Investment Partners • Chairman of Nano-Tex Inc. • Director, The Business Roundtable • Vice-chairman, Central Bank of Cyprus • Director, British American Business Inc. • Chairman emeritus, International Automotive Components Group GmbH • Director, Assured Guaranty Municipal Corp 	<p>Ross is a billionaire investor known in financial circles as “the king of bankruptcy” for his success in building new companies from the assets of defaulted ones. Rothschild entered the finance world in 1976 as a bankruptcy advisor for Rothschild Inc. Ross has been a long-time Trump ally, having him helped bail out his casino companies in the early 1990s. A former Democrat, Ross was an adamant supporter of Trump from the beginning of his campaign and went to serve as one of his main economic advisors.</p>

Source: NPR, “Trump taps billionaire investor Wilbur Ross for Commerce Secretary,” November 30, 2016; Bloomberg, “Wilbur Louis Ross Jr.,” November 30, 2016; CNN, “Wilbur Ross fast facts,” November 16, 2016; Forbes, “#232 Wilbur Ross Jr.,” November 30, 2016.