

Testimony of Robert Lee Nabors II
Nominee to Serve As
Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget

Before the Committee on Budget, United States Senate
January 13, 2009

Mr. Chairman, Ranking Member Gregg, members of the Committee, I am honored by the opportunity to come before you as President-elect Obama's nominee for Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Thank you, Chairman Obey, for your introduction. It has been my great pleasure to serve with you.

Mr. Chairman, I am especially proud to have with me my wife, Theresa, my daughter, Georgia, and my son, Jude. My family means the world to me, and I wouldn't be here today without their support.

Mr. Chairman, for the past seven years, I have had the privilege of serving on the staff of the House Appropriations Committee, most recently as Staff Director and Clerk. In that capacity, I have made recommendations on legislation with respect to discretionary spending to committee members and the House Leadership. My experience has been mostly behind the dais, not in front of it as it is today. So it is with sincere humility that I sit before you to share my thoughts with you today.

Before working for the House of Representatives, I spent five years at the Office of Management and Budget. I served as budget analyst, as senior advisor to the Director, and as Assistant Director of Administration and Executive Secretary responsible for the internal management of the organization. If am fortunate enough to be confirmed, I will dedicate myself to OMB's mission, applying my experience in Congress, my knowledge of the agency, and my expertise in budgetary issues, in the role of the Deputy Director.

These are extraordinary times. In the short term, we face the enormous challenges of reviving the economy, creating jobs, and ensuring that government investments are made wisely. In the long term, we must put the budget on a more sustainable path and gain control over our huge and rising budget deficits.

I also wish to emphasize that I am committed to working with Peter Orszag, the OMB Director-designate, with Nancy Killefer, the President's Chief Performance Officer and Deputy OMB Director-designate, and with the other members of President-elect Obama's economic team to find the best ways to reform our budget, eliminate wasteful spending, and put in place the oversight mechanisms to ensure that we wisely allocate and manage the government's resources. I also want to underscore my commitment to working across party lines to address our immediate and long-term problems. I look forward to working with every member of this Committee and every member of Congress

Mr. Chairman, Ranking Member Gregg, members of the Committee, that concludes my prepared remarks. I would be pleased to address any questions you may have.

Thank you.