

**Opening Statement of Senator Rob Portman
Nomination of Katherine Archuleta to be Director, Office of Personnel Management
July 16, 2013**

Thank you and I appreciate the Ranking Member of the full committee for giving me a moment here. I just talked to one of your senators from Colorado, Mr. Udall, in the hall about you. He introduced you, and we're glad to have you here. I'll try to keep this short because I know we've got a lot of questions and I see a couple colleagues here.

But I will say, you've been nominated to lead an agency that's got a lot of important responsibilities in years ahead including the next couple of years. Its core is how we recruit people, train people and retain the federal workforce which is a focus of this subcommittee. Additionally, you've got huge health care responsibilities coming out of Obamacare but also existing responsibilities for federal employees and the implementation of the ACA.

You will be charged with tackling management challenges such as this pension claims backlog, that this subcommittee is very interested in, and the ineffectiveness of some of the security background investigations on which Senator Tester and I just introduced legislation. I look forward to hearing how your background prepares you for these tasks because they are incredibly important. And again, I look forward to the opportunity to ask some more questions as we get into it.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to turn it back to you and my colleagues.