

U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE ON

Finance SENATOR CHUCK GRASSLEY. OF IOWA - CHAIRMAN

http://finance.senate.gov

MEMORANDUM

- To: Reporters and Editors
- Re: President Hu's visit, remarks
- Da: Thursday, April 20, 2006

Sen. Chuck Grassley, chairman of the Committee on Finance, with jurisdiction over international trade, today made the following comment on Chinese President Hu Jintao's remarks during his visit to the White House.

"It was good to hear President Hu mention the importance of creating opportunities for improving the balance in our bilateral trade relations. As he himself said, China needs to take positive steps to reform its currency, to expand market access in China and increase imports, and to strengthen the protection of intellectual property rights. Now we'll see what comes of those remarks. Good words need to be followed by concrete action. If not, that'll only increase the frustration in Congress that China's not living up to its commitments. I wrote a letter to Vice Premier Wu Yi last week to convey the same message. One test will be to see how soon China reopens its market to U.S. beef. I'll be watching developments closely in the weeks and months ahead in all of these areas."