

**Statement of William Grayson**  
**Nominee to be U.S. Ambassador to Indonesia**  
**Senate Foreign Relations Committee**  
**September 24, 2026**

Senator Hagerty, thank you for your kind introduction. I am honored by your friendship, and we are indebted to you for your service to our country and to the U.S.-Indonesian relationship.

Chairman Hagerty, Ranking Member Kaine, and distinguished Members of the Committee, I am humbled to appear before you as President Trump's nominee to be Ambassador to Indonesia. I am grateful for President Trump and Secretary Rubio's remarkable strength on the global stage. I pledge to follow their lead, always putting America first and relentlessly promoting the interests of the American people.

Before I begin, I would like to acknowledge my family, especially my wife Laurie, for her love and support. We are blessed with three wonderful daughters, Katherine, Elizabeth and Caroline - and I'm thrilled they're with us today. I also want to thank my incredible parents, EC and Jean Grayson, who are smiling from Heaven. Early on, they introduced me and my sister Darby to the wonders of the world through travel, including to the spectacular country of Indonesia. They also instilled duty, honor, country in us as my Dad was a naval officer in the Korean War and Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy under President Reagan.

The USA's relationship with Indonesia is strong. Our Comprehensive Strategic Partnership reflects a joint commitment to make our countries – and Southeast Asia broadly – safer, stronger, and more prosperous. The United States is proud to be Indonesia's greatest defense partner, based on decades of security cooperation, including our combat against transnational crime and terrorism. That cooperation means more partnership in areas such as maritime domain awareness and stopping criminal scam syndicates. We also have longstanding defense initiatives such as the annual joint multi-national Super Garuda Shield exercise. We look forward to even greater cooperation with Indonesia, both in Southeast Asia and around the world.

There are challenges too. If confirmed, I will have important conversations on how to turbocharge the growth potential in our bilateral trade and investment, including the full implementation of the Agreement on Reciprocal Trade signed in February by President Trump and President Prabowo. As Indonesia works to attract more

high-quality investment, I will use my decades of investment and legal experience to help US companies win while working to reduce trade barriers and streamline investment rules. As Indonesia plays a larger role on the global stage and in developing new technologies, especially AI, I will ensure that U.S. companies have the best opportunity to be a part of those ambitions.

If confirmed, I'm excited about the opportunity to work with President Prabowo and the people of Indonesia. They play a strong and important leadership role in Asia and beyond as the largest Muslim-majority nation and third largest democracy in the world. I look forward to engaging with them on global matters that enhance our mutual security and prosperity.

As Commissioner General in charge of the USA Pavilion at EXPO 2025 in Osaka, Japan, I fought for American interests and success. Every day, I was honored to show the world the strength, innovation, and greatness of the United States of America. Over 29 million people visited Expo Osaka, and of the 160 participating countries, I'm proud of the USA's success as we were voted the #1 team and #1 pavilion at Expo. If confirmed, I will work just as hard for President Trump and the American people, in leading our talented diplomats at Mission Indonesia.

I would like to close by saying that this nomination is the honor of a lifetime. If confirmed, I will work relentlessly to make the U.S.-Indonesia relationship the strongest that it's ever been.

Distinguished Senators, thank you again for your time today. If confirmed, it would be my distinct honor to once again serve the greatest country in the world, the United States of America. Thank you.