**Senate Sub Committee Chair, Kuluris will be holding hearings the *Trans-Pacific Partnership* 100 formal)**

*HR 507: Should the Senate Ratify the the Trans-Pacific Partnership*

**Roles:**

**Groups Supporting the bill**

* **[(Chamber of Congress)](https://www.uschamber.com/issue-brief/trans-pacific-partnership)**
* [**(US Trade Representative)**](https://ustr.gov/tpp/)

**Groups opposing to bill:**

* [**(Sierra Club)**](http://www.sierraclub.org/trade/trans-pacific-partnership)
* [**(Public Citizen)**](http://www.citizen.org/TPP)
* [**(Labor Unions**](http://www.aflcio.org/Issues/Trade/Trans-Pacific-Partnership-Free-Trade-Agreement-TPP)**)**

**Senate panel :**

* Senate Committee [Chairman John Cornyn](http://www.cornyn.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=NewsReleases&ContentRecord_id=265230a2-0aef-491f-8dba-487ecfea73bc), TX **(R)**
* Senator [Rob Portman,](http://www.portman.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2015/9/brown-portman-and-stabenow-trans-pacific-partnership-must-support-boost-u-s-auto-manufacturing) OH (R)
* Senator [Chuck Grassley](http://www.grassley.senate.gov/issues-legislation/issues/international-trade), IA (R)
* Senator [Charles E. Schumer NY](http://www.tomudall.senate.gov/?p=press_release&id=1965) (D)
* Senator [Bill Nelson,](http://orlando-politics.com/2015/04/10/protesters-invade-nelson-offices-over-tpp-trade-agreement/) FL (D)

**Role Description**

**Senate Chairman**

* Be a terribly patronizing character skeptical of all sides and refusing to allow people to avoid answering questions

**Senate Panel:** Subcommittee on International Trade, Customs, and Global Competitiveness

* Research your Senator’s likely position on the panel
* As an individual Prepare 1 core questions for each sides witnesses
* Work as a panel to decide on **two** core questions for each sides witnesses
* Divide up opposition research as a team to anticipate and challenge their potential responses
* Ask clarifying questions on responses
* Prepare and ask follow up questions if witness tries to avoid answering the questions

**Citizen Witness Supporting the bill**

* 1 opening speaker to stake your sides view (2-3 min speech)
* 3- 4 expert witnesses to answer questions from the committee

**Citizen Witness Opposing the bill**

* 1 opening speaker to stake your sides view (2-3 min speech)
* 3-4 expert witnesses to answer questions from the committee

**Committee Structure:**

* Call to order and explanation by Chairman Cornyn
* Opening speaker: Citizen Witness Supporting the bill
* Opening speaker: Citizen Witness Opposing the bill
* Panel Questions and expert responses
* Senators vote with a 1-minute justification of their vote citing

**Rules:**

1. The chairman is responsible for maintaining order and will intervene as necessary to do so
2. Don’t take this too personally; some of you might be arguing a side which you don’t actually support, so don’t take offense if you are “accused” of believing things you don’t necessarily believe
3. The senate panel will ask one question to one side. The next question will be to the other side
4. Sometimes the other side won’t be able to actually give you an answer; if this occurs don’t spend too long trying to make them answer if they don’t actually have one.
5. Suggestions? I’ll write them on the board

**100 formal points**

* 50 points: **Preparation notes:** The group is responsible for:
  + 4 pages of notes in bullet point form.
  + Students need to have at least 25 *specific* citations and evidence to justify their roles support of opposition to the bill.
  + Students should in addition have 15 specific potential flaws in their position and rebuttals
  + **Witness groups only:** Opening speech
  + **Senate**: 2 questions for each group (8 total).
* 30 points: **Individual preparation:** Students should fulfill their individual roles as listed above and work effectively on their assigned roles in the group.
  + I need a written description of who does what.
  + Each group will assign roles and obligations each individual’s work should be noted in Google Docs.
  + -2 points. Each time I have to ask you to stay on task
* 20 points: Senate hearing:
  + 10: You need to enthusiastically fulfill your role
  + 10 points: You speak at least twice citing specific evidence