



ASSOCIATION OF FLIGHT ATTENDANTS-CWA, AFL-CIO

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April 17, 2023

The Honorable Bernie Sanders
Health, Education, Labor & Pensions Committee
Chair
428 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Bill Cassidy
Health, Education, Labor & Pensions Committee
Ranking Member
428 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chair Sanders, Ranking Member Cassidy and all Members of the Senate HELP Committee,

The Association of Flight Attendants-CWA, AFL-CIO (AFA), representing 50,000 Flight Attendants at 19 airlines, urges you to advance the nomination of Julie Su for US Labor Secretary, and support swift confirmation by the full Senate.

Julie Su is the most qualified candidate for this office since Frances Perkins. Serving 17 years as a civil rights attorney representing workers who are often invisible, including shutting down sweatshops and routing out modern day slavery from our free country, parallels the early training and commitment of our historically most accomplished Labor Secretary. The only difference between Perkins and Su may be that Julie Su ran a larger state labor department while serving as Labor Secretary for the State of California, than Perkins had done within the state of New York. At a time when inequality is at its highest and human trafficking is on the rise around the world, we need a Labor Secretary who has a proven record of fighting for workers and defending our rights.

Failing to confirm Julie Su as Secretary of Labor is not an option. Not since the days of Frances Perkins, has the working class of this country – and the businesses that count on attracting an energized workforce – been in greater need of a confirmed, effective Labor Secretary able to fully perform the duties of the job. It is incumbent upon the Senate to ensure we have a leader in the Cabinet who understands the strength of our country comes from the diversity of our people and our contributions to our communities and our economy through every type of work. Julie Su is the Labor Secretary who can help all of us thrive. She has a strong record of bringing parties together to resolve disputes, on the firm foundation that labor rights are human rights and collective bargaining is the bedrock of democracy.

We stand firmly behind this eminently-qualified nominee's confirmation. Those both in favor and opposed to Julie Su's confirmation know that she will carry out the duties of her office with courage, clarity, and dedication that America's working people deserve. Opponents speaking out against this confirmation should be very wary of standing with Julie Su's prior opponents: the human traffickers and sweat shop operators who steal lives and obliterate the values we espouse as Americans.

President Biden has made an excellent choice in nominating Julie Su to a key Cabinet position that was created to ensure that working people's rights on the job are defended. No candidate can make U.S. Senators look better in their vote to confirm. We urge the Senate to confirm her nomination without delay.

Sincerely,

Sara Nelson
International President