



LIUNA!

February 9, 2023

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United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the 500,000 men and women of the Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA), I write to enthusiastically support the nomination of Jessica Looman, a proud member of our great union, to be the Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division (WHD) of the United States Department of Labor. LIUNA asks you to vote in favor of her nomination as soon as possible.

As a dedicated public servant, she has served the Department of Labor as the Acting Administrator and Principal Deputy Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division. Under her leadership, the Wage and Hour Division has instituted a range of programs and reforms to ensure full compliance with federal wage and hour laws. Her diligent oversight has resulted in millions of dollars in back wages being recovered for workers. In addition, the new Workers Owed Wages online system modernized the process to ensure workers are connected to the wages they are owed. WHD has also expanded assistance to the employer community, including the creation of sector-specific toolkits to help employers understand and comply with federal wage and hour laws. It has also published an online enforcement data system to promote transparency and accountability.

Her office has drafted a critically important proposed rule to modernize Davis-Bacon prevailing wage regulations. The proposal will improve enforcement tools, address construction wage theft and misclassification, protect workers from retaliation, and improve the process for determining local wages. She also oversaw the final rule implementing President Biden's executive order on federal contractor minimum wage, ensuring public service workers are paid no less than \$15.00 an hour. Currently, she oversees an important proposed rule that will improve the retention of service contract workers. The rule will prevent disruptions in federal services by making it easier for employers to find trained workers.

Jessica Looman has a long history as a talented and experienced administrator, bringing unions and their employer partners together. In addition to leading WHD, she served as the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Commerce and Assistant and Deputy Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Labor. Prior to her service in Minnesota government, she served as the General Counsel for the Laborers' District Council of Minnesota and North Dakota, as well as the Executive Director for the Minnesota Laborers-Employers Cooperation and Education Trust (LECET). In all of

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these roles, she brought labor and employers together to grow the economy and create good family-supporting jobs.

Last year, Ms. Looman received a strong bipartisan vote of support in the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, but time ran out for a vote on her nomination in the full Senate.

For all of these reasons, LIUNA believes that she is the best person for the job of Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division of the U.S. Department of Labor, and we ask that you vote in favor of her nomination.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry O'Sullivan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped "T" and "S".

TERRY O'SULLIVAN
General President

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