

# SIU



**Seafarers  
International  
Union of  
North America,  
AFL-CIO**

**Michael Sacco  
President**

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February 17, 2017

The Honorable Lamar Alexander  
Chairman,  
Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray  
Ranking Member,

Dear Chairman Alexander and Ranking Member Murray:

On behalf of the Seafarers International Union (AFL-CIO), I am writing to you today to express the SIU's support for Alexander Acosta to serve as the nation's 27<sup>th</sup> Secretary of Labor.

Having worked closely with eight Labor Secretaries over the last five presidential administrations, I have come to respect the unique challenges and responsibilities that come with being at the helm of the United States Department of Labor (DOL). It is a job that calls for experience, hard work, dedication, and the willingness to make tough decisions that aren't always popular.

Throughout his distinguished career, Mr. Acosta has demonstrated all these traits, and more. He is, like many of his predecessors in this position, an American success story, and his success demonstrates to all Americans the value of hard work and the opportunities that America provides its citizens – opportunities you can find nowhere else in the world.

Like me, Mr. Acosta is a son of immigrants, and he has built a distinguished career in government service. He served on the National Labor Relations Board under President George W. Bush, a role that gave him ample insight into the relationship between employers and labor representatives that will serve him well at DOL. He also served as Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division in the U.S. Department of Justice, and as a U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Florida, where he prosecuted a variety of crimes from drug trafficking and terrorism to public corruption. Given the critical role DOL plays in the enforcement of labor laws, his experience at NLRB and as a prosecutor make him uniquely qualified to lead the Labor Department.

President Trump should be applauded for this nomination, as he has found in Mr. Acosta a dedicated, qualified public servant who has served with distinction in a variety of challenging roles. His record is one of defending the rights of people from all walks of life. The SIU is confident Mr. Acosta will serve with integrity and distinction as Secretary of Labor, as he has whenever he's been called upon for public service.

I look forward to working with him in the future, and I thank you for your consideration of the views of the SIU on this matter. As always, if I can be of service to you, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Sacco".

Michael Sacco  
President

