



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS®

HAROLD A. SCHAITBERGER
General President

February 24, 2017

Honorable Lamar Alexander, Chairman
Honorable Patty Murray, Ranking Member
Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions
United States Senate
Washington D.C 20510

RE: IAFF Support of the Nomination for R. Alexander Acosta

Dear Chairman Alexander and Ranking Member Murray,

I am writing to express the strong support of International Association of Fire Fighters, which represents over 304,000 members, for the nomination of Alexander Acosta as the nation's 27th Secretary of Labor.

On a personal level, I have worked with every Secretary of Labor since John Dunlop in the Ford administration. I believe that Mr. Acosta possesses the appropriate qualifications, experience and temperament to fulfill the obligations and responsibility of the Office.

Mr. Acosta is truly an American success story. The son of Cuban immigrants, he has achieved success in multiple governmental positions, the private sector and in academia. While the majority of IAFF members are not covered under the National Labor Relations Act, we are familiar and appreciative of his history of issuing balanced rulings during his service as a commissioner of the National Labor Relations Board.

I first became acquainted with Mr. Acosta when he was the Assistant Attorney General of the Civil Rights Division at the Department of Justice. We had several sensitive issues regarding promotions and hiring issues. Mr. Acosta approached the issues in fair and dispassionate fashion. I was very impressed with his acumen and professionalism.

Subsequently, he built a stellar reputation as the US Attorney for Southern Florida successfully prosecuting high several profile cases on political corruption, terrorism, drug trafficking and financial crimes. Mr. Acosta had the longest tenure in that capacity since anyone since the early 1970s.

In closing, the IAFF urges your committee to act favorably of the nomination of this eminently qualified nominee and work to ensure the rapid confirmation of R. Alexander Acosta as Secretary of Labor.

Respectfully,

Harold A. Schaitberger
General President