



Sept. 18, 2019

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

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

Dear Chairman Alexander and Ranking Member Murray:

On behalf of Associated Builders and Contractors, a national trade association representing nearly 21,000 members from construction and industry-related firms, we write in strong support of the confirmation of Eugene Scalia as the next secretary of the U.S. Department of Labor.

We are confident Scalia will embrace DOL's mission of protecting workers and promoting policies that put Americans to work. As a seasoned attorney with positions in the public and private sectors, Scalia has decades of real-world experience working on the issues and challenges that our workers and employers face every day. We believe he is the ideal candidate to continue this administration's mission of putting our workers first and expanding economic opportunities for all Americans.

DOL plays an important role in ensuring workers are provided with workplace flexibility and protected from policies that limit their growth potential. We trust that Scalia will focus on collaborative efforts with employers and ensure industry stakeholders' voices are heard and workers' rights are protected.

As builders of our nation's communities and infrastructure, ABC members believe exceptional jobsite safety and health practices are inherently good for business. We understand the value of standards and regulations when they are based on solid evidence, with appropriate consideration paid to implementation costs and input from the business community. However, during the last administration we witnessed businesses struggle due to the DOL's numerous misguided, unnecessary, burdensome and costly regulations. We applaud President Trump for charting a different course and we look forward to working with Scalia on crafting common-sense policies and regulations.

Additionally, during his previous stint at DOL, Scalia was instrumental in the creation of the Honors Program in the Office of the Solicitor at DOL, which attracts top law school graduates to work for the department and develop their professional talents while working in public service. At ABC, workforce development is the cornerstone of our mission: we believe all Americans should develop new skills and continue their professional education to better themselves and benefit their communities. Scalia's efforts to create the honors program illustrates his focus on development and continuing education.

ABC and our members fully support the nomination of Scalia as the next DOL secretary. ABC strongly encourages the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions to give him a fair and thorough hearing and the Senate to move quickly to bring his nomination to the floor for a vote.

Sincerely,

Kristen Swearingen  
Vice President of Legislative & Political Affairs