



November 29, 2020

Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.  
President-Elect of the United States of America  
Presidential Transition Office  
1401 Constitution Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear President-Elect Biden:

We, women leaders of California, are thrilled to congratulate you on your hard-fought victory. We are also excited to strongly recommend California Secretary of Labor Julie Su as your next U.S. Secretary of Labor.

We represent groups throughout California working to advance economic justice and workers' rights. The people with whom we organize are primarily Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Asian, and immigrant workers struggling in low-wage sectors. They confront wage theft, misclassification, and discrimination at the workplace, and they are the face of our California labor movement.

We have had the great good fortune to work closely with Julie Su on strategic campaigns to change the lives of working people in our region, and we firmly believe she would be a truly exceptional Labor Secretary to advance the goals of your administration.

As the Secretary of the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency and a nationally renowned labor policy expert, Julie Su has a proven track record of transforming government agencies to deliver on their mission. Appointed by Governor Gavin Newsom in 2019, Su leads an agency of over 11,000 employees to secure fair labor and workplace conditions for California workers and businesses. She has been a critical leader during the COVID-19 crisis, addressing delivery of unemployment insurance, ensuring workplace health and safety, and promoting sound economic policy to support small businesses and their workers. She has also helped to lead Governor Newsom's Future of Work Commission to develop and realize a vision for labor and employment that bridges inequality in the decades to come.

As California Labor Commissioner from 2011 to 2018, Su enforced the state's labor laws to ensure a fair and just workplace for both employees and employers. A report on her tenure released in May 2013 found that her leadership has resulted in a renaissance in enforcement activity and record-setting results. Credited with turning her department "into what could be the most aggressive and effective state labor law enforcement division in the country," her work gained support from both workers'



advocates and the business community for promoting fair wages for workers and a level playing field for employers.

Su vindicated the rights of port truck drivers in their fight against misclassification and restaurant workers in their fight for full wages. She fully enforced the rights of farmworkers, janitors, and domestic workers, and fought end human trafficking and support immigrant workers. In short, Su has been at the forefront of some of the most innovative policies and enforcement strategies in our state's history.

It is a critical time for women's leadership and we need a strong woman as U.S. Secretary of Labor, especially a woman of color who understands what it's like to grow up in an immigrant household. Julie Su is eminently qualified, and we are convinced that there could be no better candidate in the nation to take the helm at the U.S. Department of Labor. We urge you to appoint California Labor Secretary Julie Su to this top post. Thank you for your consideration of our recommendation, and once again, we congratulate you on your victory. You give us hope for a much brighter future for working people in our country.

Yours,

Dolores Huerta, Founder and President, Dolores Huerta Foundation

Roxana Tynan, Executive Director, Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy

Marissa Nuncio, Director, Garment Worker Center

Alexandra Seung Suh, Executive Director, Koreatown Immigrant Workers Alliance

Veronica Alvarado, Deputy Director, Warehouse Workers Resource Center

Julie Gutman-Dickinson, Labor Lawyer/Partner, Bush Gottlieb, A Law Corporation

Flor Rodriguez, Director, CLEAN Carwash LA

Aquilina Soriano Versoza, Director, Pilipino Workers Center of Southern California

Janel Bailey, Executive Director, LA Black Worker Center

Alice Berliner, Director, SoCalCOSH

Kyra Greene, Executive Director, Center on Policy Initiatives

Kate O'Hara, Executive Director, East Bay Alliance for a Sustainable Economy

Derecka Mehrens, Executive Director, Working Partnerships USA

Maricela Morales, Executive Director, Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy