



September 19, 2019

The Honorable Lamar Alexander
Committee on Health, Education, Labor
and Pensions
428 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Committee on Health, Education, Labor
and Pensions
428 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Alexander and Ranking Member Murray:

On behalf of the American Hotel & Lodging Association (AHLA), I write in strong support of the nomination of Eugene Scalia to be Secretary of Labor. Mr. Scalia is extremely qualified to serve in the role to which he has been nominated, and his swift confirmation is necessary to ensure the Department of Labor (DOL) continues to fulfill its mission to wage earners, job seekers, and retirees by improving working conditions and advancing opportunities for profitable employment.

Eugene Scalia has decades of experience as a labor, employment, and regulatory lawyer. Outside his extensive legal career, Scalia served as Solicitor of the Department of Labor under President George W. Bush's administration from 2002-2003, Special Assistant to U.S. Attorney General William P. Barr during the George H.W. Bush Administration from 1992-1993, and as a speechwriter for Education Secretary William J. Bennett from 1985-1987 during the Reagan administration. AHLA believes Mr. Scalia is an extremely qualified nominee who would be a welcome addition to DOL and the President's Cabinet. We encourage the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions to move swiftly to approve the nomination of Mr. Scalia.

Serving the hospitality industry for more than a century, AHLA is the sole national association representing all segments of the U.S. lodging industry, including iconic global brands, hotel owners, REITs, franchisees, management companies, independent properties, bed and breakfasts, state hotel associations, and industry suppliers. The lodging industry is one of the nation's largest employers. With 8.3 million employees in cities and towns across the country, the hotel industry provides more than \$92 billion in wages and salaries to our associates and generates \$660 billion in economic activity from the 5.3 million guestrooms at nearly 56,000 lodging properties nationwide.

I urge the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions to approve the nominee promptly following this hearing, so the Senate may confirm him, and DOL can fulfill its mission.

Respectfully,

President & CEO

cc: Members of the Senate HELP Committee