



Headquarters

250 West 55th Street, 17th Floor
New York, NY 10019
tel: 212.430.5982

Southern Office

2301 21st Ave. South, Suite 355
Nashville, TN 37212
tel: 615.915.2417

DC Office

815 16th Street NW, Suite 4162
Washington, DC 20005

Colorado Office

303 E. 17th Ave., Suite 400
Denver, CO 80203

abetterbalance.org | info@abetterbalance.org

April 18, 2023

Committee on Health, Education, Labor & Pensions
United States Senate
428 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Support for Julie Su as Labor Secretary

Dear Senators:

We write to express our enthusiastic support for Julie Su as Secretary of Labor.

A Better Balance is a national legal advocacy organization that uses the power of the law to advance justice for workers, so they can care for themselves and their loved ones without jeopardizing their economic security. We run a free and confidential legal helpline, on which we regularly provide workers across the country information about the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) and PUMP for Nursing Mothers Act (PUMP) — both laws the Department of Labor (DOL) is responsible for enforcing. The low-wage workers, disproportionately women of color, who our organization serves depend on the DOL's clear interpretation and strong enforcement of these laws and others. We are confident Deputy Secretary Su is the right person to lead the agency through its next chapter.

As Deputy Secretary, Ms. Su worked hand in hand with Secretary Walsh to lead the DOL in effectuating President Biden's priorities. Her work implementing the Good Jobs Initiative helped expand paid leave and apprenticeships for women and other underserved workers. During her tenure, DOL raised wages for low-wage workers, disproportionately women of color, including by promulgating a final rule increasing wages for federal contractors and restoring critical protections for tipped workers.

In recent months, DOL has improved its public education materials for workers seeking to use FMLA to care for themselves or a family member, without being penalized through the assessment of points (or deduction of time) under absence control policies. Likewise, DOL has issued guidance explaining lactating workers' new rights and remedies under PUMP. These education materials will ensure that the workers our organization serves every day — as well as their employers — understand their rights and responsibilities under the law.

As Labor Secretary, Ms. Su would continue to promote the rights of workers to care for themselves and their loved ones, following in the footsteps of Secretary Walsh. In addition, her confirmation would bring vital gender, racial, and professional diversity to DOL leadership and President Biden's Cabinet. We wholeheartedly support her nomination.

Sincerely,

Dina Bakst
Co-Founder & Co-President
A Better Balance

Sherry Leiwant
Co-Founder & Co-President
A Better Balance