

## United States Senate

January 25, 2010

The Honorable Tom Harkin  
Chairman  
Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions  
731 Hart Senate Office Building  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Subject: Mr. Craig Becker, nominee to be a member of the National Labor Relations Board

Mr. Chairman:

On January 20, the Senate received the re-nomination of Mr. Craig Becker to be a member of the National Labor Relations Board and the nomination was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions. When Mr. Becker was nominated during the first session of the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress, you unfortunately moved the nomination, along with two other NLRB nominees, through the Committee without Members having a real opportunity to question the nominees, particularly Mr. Becker, in person or in public. With the new opportunity afforded to us by Mr. Becker's nomination being resubmitted to the Senate, it is critical that we conduct a full committee hearing on this important nomination.

The NLRB is a bipartisan body that has the crucial task of overseeing, in a balanced fashion, our nation's workplace laws governed by the National Labor Relations Act. The NLRB supervises union organization campaigns and addresses unfair labor practices by unions and employers. Through its rulings and activities the NLRB, in essence, forms the nation's labor-management relations policy for employers and unions.

As you know, Mr. Becker has a long career of writings and activities that suggest his views concerning labor-management relations are far outside the mainstream in America. As such, I have serious questions about whether Mr. Becker has the ability to fairly consider important cases that come before the NLRB.

For these reasons, and given the fact that two NLRB members have already been approved by the Committee and are pending on the Senate's Executive Calendar, I strongly urge you to follow regular order and schedule a hearing on Mr. Becker's nomination before you proceed to full committee consideration of his nomination.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

  
John McCain  
United States Senator

cc: The Honorable Mike Enzi  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions