



November 10, 2020

President-Elect Joe Biden
Transition Team Offices
Washington, DC

Via Email to: Gautam Raghavan, gaurag@gmail.com

Dear President-Elect Biden,

Congratulations on your overwhelming victory! Your win is vital in the effort to restore dignity, safety, and decent jobs to millions of working people across the country.

As you know, CWA was very enthusiastic about your focus throughout the campaign on the rights and conditions facing working people. In this spirit, I am writing to urge you to appoint Congressman Andy Levin (MI-09) as Secretary of Labor in your new cabinet, as I believe he is the best person to help move your vision forward in that role.

To put it plainly, Congressman Levin checks every box that you'll need in a Secretary of Labor to help implement your agenda effectively—he has a deep passion and vision for enhancing the lives of working people, strong credentials from the labor movement, tremendous experience implementing labor policy, an ability to hit the ground running right away, and, needless to say, a strong understanding of working with Congress.

Congressman Levin's record speaks for itself when it comes to demonstrating his commitment to working tooth-and-nail for working people. As a labor movement organizer and staffer for over two decades, he has seen first-hand the challenges facing workers and fought hard to remedy them.

He also served in the Department of Labor under President Clinton, where he worked on labor law reform, protecting overtime, and more. And, he later ran the state of Michigan's workforce office, where he started and ran the visionary “No Worker Left Behind” initiative, creating the most aggressive green jobs program of its time.

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As a freshman in the 116th Congress, Levin was appointed to the House Education and Labor Committee and served as the Committee's Vice Chairman, a role in which he has helped Chairman Scott with support for key legislation to restore workers' collective bargaining rights, raise the minimum wage, strengthen OSHA, and protect multi-employer pensions.

There's no question in my mind that there are many strong candidates who would be eager to serve as your Secretary of Labor, a number of whom could do so quite capably. However, there are two key factors that set Congressman Levin apart. First, having served in all of the above-mentioned roles, he could hit the ground running and get started on a pro-worker agenda on **day one**. Given the disastrous last four years in which the Trump Administration has attacked the rights, well-being, and earnings of working people at every single opportunity, and given the multiple crises that our nation is facing, we need the Department of Labor to get working on behalf of our nation's workers as soon as possible.

Second, I truly believe that this is one policy area in which your administration has a really good chance to enact transformative policy that will benefit tens of millions of people for decades to come. Having a Secretary who comes out of the labor movement, who really understands in his bones the importance of the job and what it has the potential to achieve for this country, is vitally important, and there is no question that Congressman Levin brings that to the table.

Given that, I strongly urge you to consider Congressman Andy Levin's candidacy for Secretary of Labor as you work to assemble a cabinet that will work with you to get America back on track.

Sincerely,



Christopher M. Shelton
President