



## COALITION FOR A **DEMOCRATIC WORKPLACE**

July 13, 2021

Dear Senator:

The Coalition for a Democratic Workplace (CDW), composed of hundreds of organizations representing millions of businesses that employ tens of millions of workers nationwide in nearly every industry, writes to express our opposition to the nomination of Jennifer Abruzzo to serve as General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). Ms. Abruzzo disqualified herself from the role when she participated and subsequently was not forthcoming about her involvement in the unprecedented firing of her would-be predecessor, former NLRB General Counsel Peter Robb.

CDW is a broad-based coalition of hundreds of organizations representing hundreds of thousands of employers and millions of employees in various industries across the country concerned with a long-standing effort by some in the labor movement to make radical changes to the National Labor Relations Act without regard to the severely negative impact they would have on employees, employers, and the economy. CDW was originally formed in 2005 and has since focused on pushing back against regulatory overreach by the NLRB.

The position of General Counsel is intended to be entirely independent from the NLRB as well as the administration under which he or she serves. Despite this clear intent, the Biden administration demanded Robb's resignation immediately upon inauguration. When Robb refused to resign, the administration chose to fire him that same day.

The administration's inappropriate actions were based on the recommendations of President Biden's transition team. Ms. Abruzzo, a member of the transition, admitted to being a part of the deliberations and decision making for this unprecedented move only after concerns were raised by Senators during her confirmation hearing. She chose not to be forthcoming about her participation in order to protect her opportunity to be confirmed to the General Counsel role, proving she knew Robb's termination was inappropriate, and her involvement could disqualify her from the position she seeks.

These actions clearly crossed the line of appropriate behavior. Ms. Abruzzo should not be rewarded for her participation in the unprecedented and partisan treatment of Peter Robb. CDW urges the Senate to reject her nomination to this critically important role and require the administration to find a more appropriate nominee who will respect the independence of the General Counsel.

Sincerely,

The Coalition for a Democratic Workplace