



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL ENGINEERS AFL-CIO & CLC

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December 8, 2023

Dear Senator,

We write to you as the executive officers of the International Federation of Professional & Technical Engineers (IFPTE) and the President of the Association of Administrative Law Judges (AALJ), IFPTE Judicial Council 1, to urge you to vote yes on the nomination of Gov. Martin O'Malley to serve as Commissioner of the Social Security Administration. Our union is a steadfast champion of SSA, its workforce, and the foundation of retirement security and economic fairness that social security benefits provide.

Among IFPTE's diverse membership of 90,000 professionals in the federal government, state and local government, and the private sector are over 1,100 administrative law judges (ALJs) at the Social Security Administration (SSA). These civil servants conduct impartial hearings and issue decisions on claimants' appeals for disability benefit determinations and various non-disability issues. Through the AALJ, their union, these ALJs advocate for necessary resources to support the program, protection of judicial independence, the due process interests of the American public, reasonable working conditions, and an effective and well-functioning SSA.

Our members and retirees are also among the nearly 67 million Americans who pay into the SSA trust funds and depend on the benefits provided by SSA. This agency is facing myriad challenges when it comes to delivering services and benefits to Americans, aligning its resources to achieve immediate and long-term goals, and empowering its workforce to succeed – but these challenges can be overcome. Americans who rely on Social Security benefits and the federal employees who strive to deliver effective services to all Americans need a highly qualified Senate-confirmed Commissioner to lead SSA.

Fortunately, Gov. Martin O'Malley is ideally qualified to fulfill that leadership role. He has articulated a clear vision of responsible and accountable leadership and recognizes that effective delivery of governmental services and respect for the agency's workforce go hand-in-hand.

We commend Majority Leader Schumer and pro-Social Security Senators from both parties for the leadership and collaborative approach that they have taken in shepherding Gov. O'Malley's nomination through the advice and consent process. Gov. O'Malley's nomination was reported out of the Senate Finance Committee with clear bipartisan support, and we hope that bipartisan spirit continues as the full Senate considers this

important confirmation. Tens of millions of American workers and retirees deserve nothing less.

Thank you for considering our request. Please feel free to contact us directly or to coordinate with Faraz Khan, IFPTE Legislative Director, at 202-239-4892 and fkhan@ifpte.org.

Sincerely,

Hon. Sommattie Ramrup
AALJ President

Matthew S. Biggs
IFPTE President

Gay Henson
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