

FEDERAL WORKERS ALLIANCE

COLLECTIVELY REPRESENTING OVER 300,000 FEDERAL WORKERS

May 6, 2021

Dear Senator:

The undersigned unions of the Federal Workers Alliance (FWA), representing upwards of 300,000 federal workers, are writing **in support of Kiran Ahuja to lead the Office of Personnel Management (OPM)**. We urge you to vote in support of her nomination when it is considered by the full Senate.

After the last four years, during which there was a concerted effort to shutter OPM, it is critically important that this agency has a leader that not only believes in its mission, but one that also has a proven track record of success. The FWA believes that Kiran Ahuja fits that bill. Ms. Ahuja is an OPM veteran, having served as chief of staff at the agency during the Obama Administration. Before that, she served six years leading President Obama's Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders aimed at improving the lives and opportunities for Asian American and Native Hawaiian families. Her work advocating for inclusion for all people, particularly women of color, is the exact brand of experience needed at OPM to reverse efforts by the previous administration to erode and do away with diversity and inclusion initiatives within our federal workforce.

Our nation's federal workers take pride in the public service they provide to American taxpayers. As a public servant herself, we believe that Kiran Ahuja takes that very same pride. She understands what it is to be a public servant and the important work performed by our nation's civilian workers. We believe she will bring with her to OPM a healthy respect and support for federal workers, something that has been sorely lacking for four years, and will enlist the involvement of all stakeholders, including unions, to solve difficult problems.

The FWA believes that President Biden nominated Kiran Ahuja to lead OPM because of her impeccable qualifications, her unique knowledge of the issues of importance to our federal workforce, and her ability to collaborate broadly as a part of moving an agenda. To that end, we urge you to vote in support of her confirmation.

If you have any questions, please contact FWA legislative co-chairs Matt Biggs at mbiggs@ifpte.org or Steve Lenkart at slenkart@nffe.org.

Sincerely,

Antilles Consolidated Education Association (ACE)
Federal Education Association/National Education Association (FEA/NEA)
International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF)
International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAMAW)
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW)
International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT)
International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE)
Metal Trades Department, AFL-CIO (MTD)
National Association of Government Employees (NAGE)
National Federation of Federal Employees (NFFE)
National Weather Service Employees Organization (NWSEO)
Patent Office Professional Association (POPA)
United Power Trades Organization (UPTO)