International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers



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PLEASE CONFIRM A FULL NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD NOW!!

□ President Obama has nominated a package of five individuals to serve on the National Labor Relations Board. It is essential that the Senate act promptly to confirm these individuals in order to keep this important agency operational to protect workers' rights.
☐ The package of five nominees includes three current members of the Board—Chairman Mark Pearce and Members Sharon Block and Richard Griffin—and two nominees who have not served previously on the Board and who have been drawn from the ranks of attorneys who represent management in disputes with employees: Philip Miscimarra and Harry Johnson.
☐ Miscimarra and Johnson have represented employers and trade associations challenging decisions and actions by the NLRB, including the NLRB's rules to improve the election process and the rules requiring employers to post notices informing workers of their rights under the NLRA. They clearly have views on labor relations matters that we do not agree with. But working people need and deserve a functioning NLRB, and confirmation of a full package of nominees will provide that stability.
☐ It is urgent that the nominations be considered and approved quickly. At present, two of the five seats on the Board are vacant and the term of one of the three current Board members, Chairman Pearce, will expire in August. Without action by the Senate, the Board will soon be left without the quorum of at least three members that is required in order for the Board to function.
□ The DC Circuit's decision in the <i>Noel Canning</i> case on President Obama's recess appointments to the NLRB makes confirmation of the package even more urgent. The decision has seriously undermined enforcement of the law, creating chaos and uncertainty for workers who have turned to the Board for protection of their rights. Employers are using the <i>Noel Canning</i> decision to challenge the Board's decisions, and the DC Circuit is putting these cases on hold, leaving workers without remedies when they are illegally fired for union activity or when their employer refuses to bargain with their representative.
☐ The way to resolve this uncertainty is to confirm this package of Board nominees.
☐ There is nothing unprecedented about the Senate being asked to confirm a package of five nominees. Since the mid 1980's, the Senate has confirmed packages to the NLRB. Indeed, in the last 25 years, all but two of the 18 different nominees confirmed to seats on the Board have been confirmed as part of such a package, and many of them had been serving as recess appointees when they were confirmed.
□ Working people need and deserve a confirmed NLRB <i>now</i> . The Senate must act promptly to confirm the nominations. This will remove any doubt about the Board's authority to act and restore stability to our system of labor-management relations