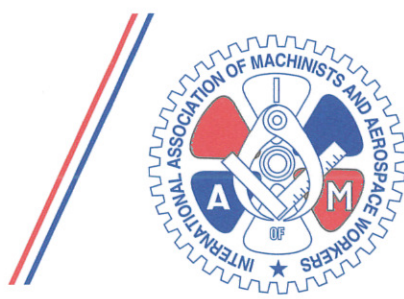


**International
Association of
Machinists and
Aerospace Workers**



9000 Machinists Place
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772-2687

Area Code 301
967-4500



OFFICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

September 5, 2018

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, I am writing to urge you to oppose the confirmation of Judge Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court. Now more than ever, our country needs a non-partisan Supreme Court dedicated to providing equal justice under law for all Americans. Judge Kavanaugh's entire career, as a judge and as a White House operative, demonstrates that his confirmation to the contrary, will complete one political party's efforts to transform the Court into an anti-democratic partisan outfit whose purpose will be to comfort the comfortable and afflict the afflicted. His confirmation would infect for a generation one of our three branches of government, and threaten the system of checks and balances needed to preserve our democracy.

Kavanaugh is no conservative. He is not a judge who has sought to preserve and learn from what is best in our history. He is instead a judicial activist whose decisions have repeatedly and consistently protected and extended the power of business interests, and undermined the rights and prospects of working Americans and their families. This is not a controversial statement. The right-wing legal community that has promoted Judge Kavanaugh's career and his confirmation has supported him precisely *because* of his aggressive promotion of corporate interests at the expense of any other competing concern.

Although Judge Kavanaugh pays lip service to the concept of *stare decisis*, he has built his career on seeking to limit and overturn the body of precedent that has allowed the democratic branches to create administrative agencies that since the Roosevelt administration have protected individual and collective rights. We have seen this philosophy at work in cases like *Janus v. AFSCME Council 31*. There, the Republican appointees on the Court, over the dissent of all of the other members of the Court, overturned decades of precedent to undermine collective bargaining in service of corporate and partisan party objectives. With a Justice Kavanaugh on the bench, we would see this same philosophy weaponized against a range of issues that have defined ordered liberty in the modern era – issues involving reproductive and privacy rights, labor rights, civil rights, voting rights, environmental protections, and other important rights and privileges which limit the power of business interests and are opposed by the partisan interests of the Republican party.

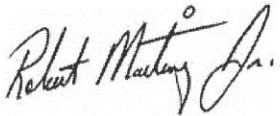
Moreover, Judge Kavanaugh has been as deferential to executive power in government as he has been to economic power in the world of business. At a time when the limits of executive power may be tested as never before, we need a Supreme Court that has the will to stand up to abuses of power, both inside of government and outside. Judge Kavanaugh's addition to the Court would cement a majority that will never stand up to an over-reaching President.

The Country, in short, is in desperate need of an independent judiciary that will protect the constitutional and statutory rights of ordinary Americans, and stand up to a President who frequently does not respect the law. Judge Kavanaugh's confirmation would complete the long-term project of the Republican Party and the country's corporate interests to turn the Court in the exact opposite direction, into a partisan body promoting their partisan agendas.

For these reasons, **I urge you to vote against confirming Judge Kavanaugh** and to work towards confirming a Justice that will strengthen our democracy and an independent judiciary.

Contact Legislative Director Hasan Solomon at (202) 420-5902 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Martinez, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robert Martinez, Jr.
International President, IAMAW