International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers



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Area Code 301 967-4500



OFFICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

February 26, 2021

Dear President Biden,

The International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers ("Machinists Union") represents more than 40,000 Service Contract Workers who provide vitally important services to the federal government under the McNamara-O'Hara Service Contract Act (SCA). Our members work at more than 800 locations across the county, primarily at military bases and other federal installations. Some of our larger bargaining units include 4,000 SCA workers at Fort Rucker, Alabama; more than 1,000 at Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada; nearly 800 at Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Arizona; and 750 at Patuxent River Naval Air Station, Maryland.

In January 2009, President Barack Obama rightly signed Executive Order 13495 "Nondisplacement of Qualified Workers under Service Contracts". This Executive Order provided vitally important job security to qualified service workers by granting them a right of first refusal for continued employment when an SCA government contractor/employer was replaced by a new successor contractor at the same location. Federal Government service contracts are regularly put up for re-competition and the contract is often awarded to a new, successor contractor. Often the successor contractor hires the majority of the predecessor's employees, but often times they do not, and the predecessor's employees are displaced. President Obama issued EO 13495 to ensure that the Federal Government's procurement interests are efficiently and economically maintained by ensuring that these skilled and experienced service contract workforces are preserved when contracts change hands.

Unfortunately, in October 2019, President Trump issued Executive Order 13897 "Improving Federal Contractor Operations by Revoking EO 13495". As the title of the EO suggests, President Trump's executive order wrongly rescinded President Obama's prudent Executive Order 13495. Not only is President Trump's petty rebuke of President Obama's policy bad for government contracting efficiency, it is also disastrous for the workers who are displaced (along with their families and the communities where they reside).

The 40,000 SCA members that we proudly represent are asking us "when will President Biden act to restore President Obama's policy on Nondisplacement of SCA workers and reinstate the job security we deserve." We respectfully ask that you swiftly reinstitute EO 13495 for the sake of efficient federal procurement and fairness to these workers and their families.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this very important request, I look forward to working with you on your worker-friendly agenda.

Sincerely,

Robert Martinez, Jr.

International President, IAMAW