

Dear Colleagues,

I met with President Biden and he accepted that my time as Labor Secretary will conclude mid-March. I told the President how profoundly grateful I am for the opportunity to serve. As someone who grew up in an active union family and is a card-carrying union member, serving as Secretary of Labor and being given this unique opportunity to help working people is itself a privilege. But to do so for the most pro-worker and pro-union President and administration in our nation's history has been the ultimate honor. I am forever grateful to President Biden not only for the faith he placed in me, but for his steady, transformative and historic leadership on behalf of working people everywhere.

The President's passion and commitment to working people is matched only by yours, my colleagues, here at the United States Department of Labor. I have cherished every minute I have spent in this role, first and foremost because I got to work with you. I could not be more grateful to each and every one of you for the talent and dedication you bring to this work every day. I will forever be proud of the work we've done together over the last two years and I hope that all of you take similar pride in our accomplishments together.

We have been there for workers through a once-in-a-century pandemic and, in a historic recovery that brought deep shifts in labor dynamics, we encouraged and empowered workers to stand up for their rights and demand better opportunities.

We strengthened the protections that workers depend on, putting the most vulnerable workers first, lifting up the needs of women, workers of color, workers with disabilities, and veterans, and advancing the values of diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility through everything the Department does.

As someone who battled cancer as a child and addiction as an adult, my life has been defined by second chances, and our work delivered second chances to millions of people in this country who needed them.

We promoted every worker's right to form a union, rallied the entire federal government to advance labor rights, and provided critical information and support to workers during a historic surge in union organizing activity. I've met with workers at their workplaces, in union halls, and on a picket line, and I've sat at the table and spent long nights with labor and management to get to solutions. We demonstrated the power of collective bargaining and the importance of labor-management collaboration to build the top-notch workforce that employers and our economy need, and to rebuild a strong, secure and inclusive middle class for our nation's families.

We brought high-quality, equitable job training and career pathways to more workers in more places and across more industries, and we made sure that the federal government's investments are creating good jobs with equitable access for the workers who need them the most. We mobilized to create opportunities in new and emerging sectors in response to critical needs.

Thanks once again to this President's leadership, the rights and needs of working people are no longer the sole concern of the Department of Labor but have been centered in the work of an entire Administration as never before.

In closing this chapter, I would be remiss if I did not also acknowledge the exceptional work and support of my partner in this endeavor, Deputy Secretary **Julie Su**. Julie is an incredible leader and has been central to our success as a team and as a Department. With the kind of leadership and talent assembled across the Department, I am confident there will be continuity and the work will be sustained.

I believe in the work of every single one of the Department's agencies, offices, regions, and people, because I have seen how each of you is making a difference in the lives of those we serve. Our work is at the heart of the President's success building an economy from the bottom up and the middle out, and it will continue to be.

I leave the Department with a deeper understanding of why working people are the heart and soul and strength of our nation. In my travels across this country, I have been moved and inspired by workers,

students, and apprentices at every kind of job. As the son of immigrants, I believe in America more than ever, now that I have had the opportunity to serve our people alongside all of you.

In service,

Marty Walsh