



2800 S Shirlington Rd, Suite 300, Arlington, VA 22206

September 19, 2019

Honorable Lamar Alexander
Chairman
Senate Committee of Health,
Education, Labor and Pensions
455 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Patty Murray
Ranking Member
Senate Committee of Health,
Education, Labor and Pensions
154 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Nomination of the Honorable Eugene Scalia

Dear Chairman Alexander and Ranking Member Murray:

The Air Conditioning Contractors of America (ACCA) is the national association of heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration (HVACR) professionals across the U.S. with a membership of nearly 60,000 industry leaders. We write in support of the nomination of the Honorable Eugene Scalia to serve as the U.S. Secretary of Labor.

The HVACR industry is a backbone of the American economy. The products ACCA members design, install, service, and maintain are responsible for ensuring information technology centers are operational, making modern medicine possible, maintaining a fresh food supply, and providing essential comfort for every home, office building, and healthcare facility in the country.

The HVACR industry is experiencing significant workforce challenges and the Department of Labor plays a pivotal role in helping address these issues. By 2022, the HVACR industry will require more than 115,000 skilled professionals to fill jobs due to retirement and anticipated growth in the industry.

ACCA supports efforts from the Department of Labor to expand industry recognized apprenticeships and promote rewarding careers in the skilled trades. Throughout his time in office, President Trump has focused efforts from his Administration to drive more men and women into the skilled trades and these efforts are having a positive impact. President Trump is also advancing a regulatory agenda, including the overtime rule, that will have a positive impact on workers and small businesses.

ACCA is confident that Mr. Scalia will continue to lead efforts promoted by the Trump Administration to address our industry's workforce challenges. Mr. Scalia has a history of supporting workers, promoting workplace safety, and holding executives accountable for



misconduct. ACCA believes that Mr. Scalia will also support President Trump's initiatives to promote the value a highly educated and skilled workforce to meet the growing demand in our industry.

Additionally, Mr. Scalia comes from a family that has emphasized the importance of public service. He has served our country honorably for many years and we look forward to a swift conformation by the U.S. Senate.

If we can be of any service, please reach out to Alyx Simon on my staff. She can be reached at alyx.simon@acca.org or 703-824-8863.

Thank you for leadership on the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions. ACCA has enjoyed positive relationships with your staff and fellow committee members for several years.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Barton C. James". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "B".

Barton James
President & CEO
Air Conditioning Contractors of America