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December 4, 2014

**Vote to Confirm Lauren McFerran to the
National Labor Relations Board**

Dear Senator:

On behalf of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, a coalition charged by its diverse membership of over 200 national organizations to promote and protect the rights of all persons in the United States, we ask you to vote to confirm Lauren McFerran to be a member of the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). Ms. McFerran is well-qualified and her confirmation will ensure that the NLRB remains fully staffed so that it can continue to effectively address workplace disputes. A fully staffed NLRB is important to the civil rights community.

The NLRB is an independent federal agency that protects workers' rights to organize and to determine whether to have unions as their bargaining representative. To The Leadership Conference, workers' rights—including the right to organize unions and engage in collective bargaining—are fundamental civil and human rights and the work of the NLRB has had an enormous impact on protecting workers' rights to organize their workplaces. Ms. McFerran has demonstrated that she is the right person to serve as a member of the NLRB.

Ms. McFerran's outstanding career in public service makes her exceptionally well-qualified to serve as a member of the NLRB. She has a broad understanding of federal labor and employment laws, having served as Labor Counsel for Senators Tom Harkin and Edward Kennedy on the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions for the past nine years. After graduating from Yale Law School, Ms. McFerran served as a law clerk to Chief Justice Carolyn Dineen King of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. She also worked as an associate at the labor law firm of Bredhoff & Kaiser.

It is imperative that Ms. McFerran's nomination to the NLRB be confirmed without delay, in order for the NLRB to be fully staffed. The disputes before the NLRB are important to reach swift resolutions and guidance on workplace practices to both workers and employers. The Senate has the opportunity to approve her nomination and make certain the NLRB will be fully staffed, ensure safe workplaces and protect job standards.

We strongly urge you to vote in favor of this important nomination. Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Nancy Zirkin at zirkin@civilrights.org or 202-466-3311 or Lexer Quamie, Senior Counsel at quamie@civilrights.org or 202-466-3648.

Sincerely,

Wade Henderson
President & CEO

Nancy Zirkin
Executive Vice President