



February 2, 2010

Senator Mark Warner
459A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Warner:

On behalf of the Virginia Chamber of Commerce I am writing to urge you to oppose Craig Becker's nomination to serve as a Member of the National Labor Relations Board or at least ensure that his confirmation will not occur until Senator Brown is seated and further debate occurs. While President Obama has recently stated his willingness to work in a more cooperative fashion with Republicans, there seems to be no end to his highly partisan actions as reflected in the present case. You have recently been quoted in newspapers as desiring to build a centrist coalition, and we urge you to begin now.

Craig Becker, the Associate General Counsel of the SEIU and the AFL-CIO, has been nominated by President Obama for a five year term on the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). It is clearly not in the best interest of federal labor policy to confirm such a controversial individual. His confirmation would be completely inconsistent with the middle of the road course you have indicated our federal government should begin to follow.

Mr. Becker is seen as a fractional figure in labor law, which he would be charged with interpreting and enforcing. Many of his positions are well outside the mainstream and would disrupt years of established precedent and the delicate balance in current labor law. These positions have raised significant concern in the employer community, for example, the extent to which he would restrictively interpret employers' free speech rights.

Mr. Becker has written prolifically about the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA), the law he would be charged with interpreting and enforcing. These writings are extreme and his views on American labor law would disrupt years of established precedent and the delicate balance in current law. In addition his views would likely tilt the board's decisions in a radical new direction—which is especially dangerous in a troubled economy. There have also been reports that if confirmed he will try to implement card check and other features of EFCA even if Congress continues to refuse to pass this legislation.

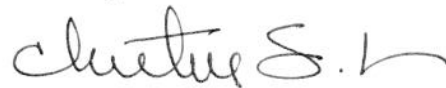
It appears now that organized labor and their supporters in the Senate are trying to seize upon the short window before Senator-Elect Brown is sworn in to overcome a filibuster.

While the Virginia Chamber opposes Mr. Becker's nomination regardless, pushing it through during lame duck period is both an egregious procedural mistake as well as a dangerous precedent.

Mark, this matter is very important to the Virginia Chamber, Virginia business and our national labor policy.

Thank you for your consideration of our position.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Clinton S. Morse". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "C" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Clinton S. Morse
Board Chair

cc: Hugh Keogh
Keith Cheatham