

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS

LOCAL No. 49, 49A, 49B, 49C, 49D, 49E, 49L
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Jan 30, 2023

Senator Jen McEwen
Chair
Labor Committee
95 University Ave. W.
St. Paul, MN 55115

Dear Chair McEwen and Members of the Labor Committee,

The International Union of Operating Engineers Local 49 (IUOE Local 49) represents more than 12,000 Operating Engineers and their families in Minnesota. Our members include heavy equipment operators and mechanics, along with stationary engineers. We write to express our strong support for the confirmation of Commissioner Blissenbach.

In her previous roles as Interim Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner, and Assistant Commissioner, Commissioner Blissenbach has shown herself to be a thoughtful and capable leader. She has a clear understanding of the challenges that workers face in the modern economy and the tools available at the Department to ensure that they are protected. She recognizes that strong and fair enforcement of Minnesota's labor laws not only supports workers but also benefits businesses that play by the rules by ensuring that they are competing on a level playing field.

With her approachable style, knowledge of labor laws, and commitment to the rights of workers, Minnesota workers will be well served by her continued leadership at the Department. For the above reasons we strongly encourage members of the Committee to support her confirmation.

Sincerely,

John Pollard. Legislative Director, International Union of Operating Engineers Local 49