



January 27, 2023

Chair McEwen and Members of the Labor Committee,

As President of the Minnesota Building and Construction Trades Council, an organization representing over 70,000 working women and men across the State, I am writing in support of Commissioner Blissenbach's confirmation.

The Minnesota Building and Construction Trades Council has a commitment to stabilize the employment and economic security of the union construction workers in Minnesota along with working to ensure worker safety. Our purpose is to create more work opportunities, achieve living wages while protecting benefit standards by promoting workforce, economic development and community engagement.

Over Ms. Blissenbach's career, she has spent time fighting for working women and men not only as a labor attorney, an attorney for Education Minnesota, but also during her time at the Department of Labor and Industry where she started in 2019. During her tenure at the Department of Labor and Industry, she has been a fierce advocate for labor standards enforcement, supporting living wages, protecting workers safety, promoting skilled workforce training through registered apprenticeship, and ensuring prevailing wage is applied and enforced on state-funded construction projects.

Since Ms. Blissenbach was named interim Commissioner in August of 2022 and her prior time as both a Deputy and Assistant Commissioner, she has shown true leadership and an ability to communicate and be a consensus builder when issues arise. The state's workforce is in good hand with Ms. Blissenbach leading the way.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Joe Fowler'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joe Fowler  
President