

February 11, 2025

The Honorable Bill Cassidy, M.D. Chairman, Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions 428 Senate Dirksen Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Bernie Sanders Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions 428 Senate Dirksen Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cassidy and Ranking Member Sanders:

On behalf of the over 500 members of the National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association, I am writing to express our support for the nomination of the Honorable Lori Chavez-DeRemer for Secretary of Labor. As your committee prepares to conduct her confirmation hearing, we urge you to advance her nomination and support her confirmation on the Senate floor.

NSSGA represents the aggregates and industrial sand industry of our country, with over 9,000 facilities that procure 2.5 billion tons of aggregates annually, which are crucial in sustaining our lifestyle and constructing our nation's infrastructure and communities. The products sourced by this industry are fundamental components required for building roads, airports, transit, rail, ports, clean water and energy networks. A skilled and highly trained inclusive and diverse workforce is paramount to safely operating quarries that produce the critical materials found in infrastructure projects. Unfortunately, many producers are having difficulty hiring and retaining an adequate workforce in today's labor market.

NSSGA is committed to advancing policies that train workers, increase the diversity of our workforce and ensure producers can access the skilled employees needed to continue producing the building blocks of America. Policies promulgated by the Department of Labor (DOL) significantly impact our members by shaping regulatory frameworks that govern workplace safety, labor standards, and workforce development within the aggregates industry. As policymakers advocate for sustainable practices and compliance measures, the DOL's actions influence operational costs and business strategies for NSSGA members, ultimately affecting their competitiveness and ability to thrive in the ever-evolving construction and infrastructure sectors. Through her distinguished career as a small business owner, Mayor, and member of Congress, Ms. Chavez-DeRemer is well-positioned to understand the challenges our industry faces. NSSGA looks forward to working with Ms. Chavez-DeRemer to advance policies that support the aggregates industry by increasing worker safety while also providing for a robust, skilled workforce to meet industry demands. We appreciate your consideration and urge you to swiftly advance the nomination of Lori Chavez-DeRemer.

Sincerely,

Michele Stanley Interim CEO National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association