

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 21, 2016

The Honorable Tom Perez  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Labor  
200 Constitution Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20210

Dear Secretary Perez:

We write to express our deep concern about serious allegations of worker misclassification and wage violations among federal food-service contract employees in the United States Capitol. We understand that the Department of Labor (DOL) Baltimore Regional Office has opened an investigation into these allegations, and we appreciate your responsiveness. We are concerned, however, that such alleged practices may extend throughout other contracts operated by Compass Group and its subsidiaries. Given the serious nature of these potential labor law violations, we ask the DOL to audit all of Compass Group's federal cafeteria services contracts.

As you may be aware, many hourly wage employees of Compass Group subsidiary Restaurant Associates (RA) working under food-service contracts with the Architect of the Capitol (AOC) recently received wage increases as part of contract renewals between RA and AOC. In many instances, these wage increases were accompanied by new job titles, and it now appears that RA has misclassified some of these workers and subsequently denied them the full measure of the wage increases they deserved.

The seriousness of these complaints leads us to question if Compass Group has committed labor law violations at other federal cafeteria facilities. A DOL-conducted audit of federal cafeteria services contracts with Compass Group and its subsidiaries will help establish whether there is a pattern of behavior by the company. This information will be particularly useful as we consider how to respond to the accusations of misclassification and underpayment of workers in the United States Capitol complex.

We know you share our view that worker misclassification and underpayment are serious violations of federal labor law with significant consequences for the affected employees. We cannot tolerate any violations by Compass Group or any other federal contractor. We urge you to conduct this audit of Compass Group to help us ensure that the company is complying with federal labor law and paying its workers the wages they deserve.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and your commitment to American workers.

Sincerely,



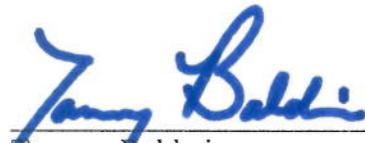
Sherrod Brown  
United States Senator

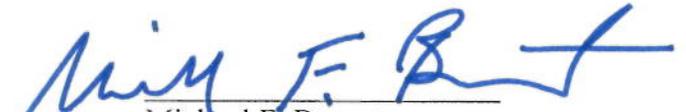


Harry Reid  
United States Senator



Charles E. Schumer  
United States Senator

  
Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senator

  
Michael F. Bennet  
United States Senator

  
Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator

  
Cory A. Booker  
United States Senator

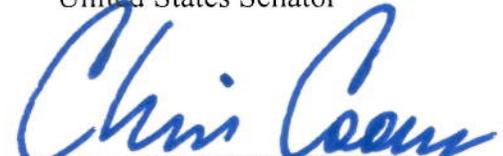
  
Barbara Boxer  
United States Senator

  
Maria Cantwell  
United States Senator

  
Benjamin L. Cardin  
United States Senator

  
Thomas R. Carper  
United States Senator

  
Robert P. Casey, Jr.  
United States Senator

  
Christopher A. Coons  
United States Senator

  
Joe Donnelly  
United States Senator

  
Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator

  
Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator

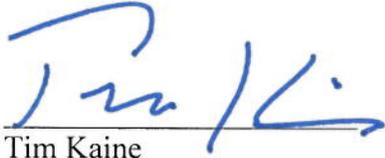
  
Al Franken  
United States Senator

  
Kirsten E. Gillibrand  
United States Senator

  
Martin Heinrich  
United States Senator



Heidi Heitkamp  
United States Senator



Tim Kaine  
United States Senator



Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator



Joe Manchin III  
United States Senator



Claire McCaskill  
United States Senator



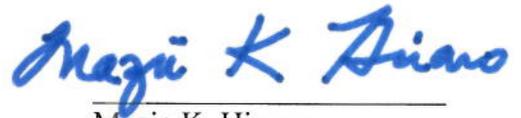
Jeff Merkley  
United States Senator



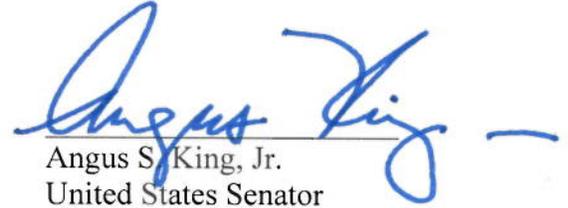
Christopher Murphy  
United States Senator



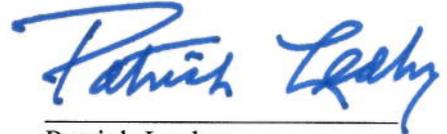
Bill Nelson  
United States Senator



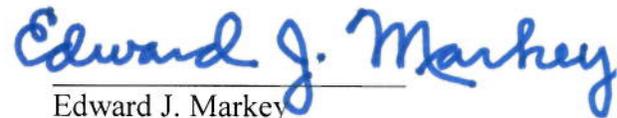
Mazie K. Hirono  
United States Senator



Angus S. King, Jr.  
United States Senator



Patrick Leahy  
United States Senator



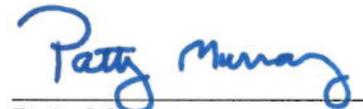
Edward J. Markey  
United States Senator



Robert Menendez  
United States Senator



Barbara A. Mikulski  
United States Senator



Patty Murray  
United States Senator



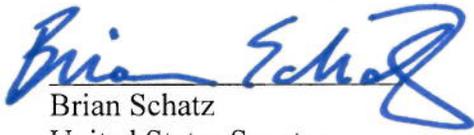
Gary C. Peters  
United States Senator



Jack Reed  
United States Senator



Bernard Sanders  
United States Senator



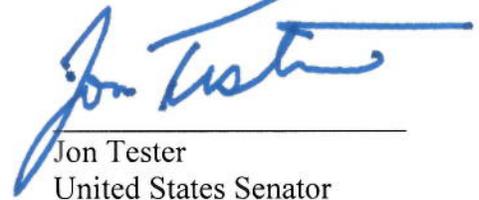
Brian Schatz  
United States Senator



Jeanne Shaheen  
United States Senator



Debbie Stabenow  
United States Senator



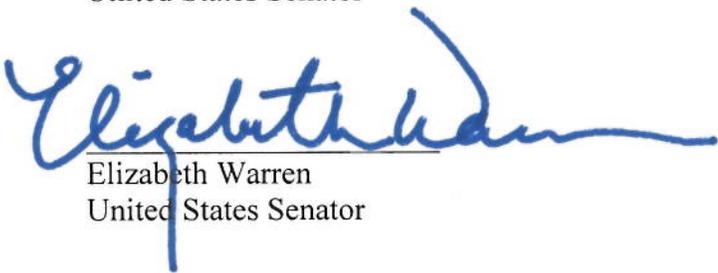
Jon Tester  
United States Senator



Tom Udall  
United States Senator



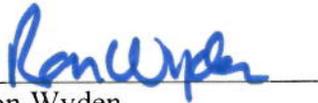
Mark R. Warner  
United States Senator



Elizabeth Warren  
United States Senator



Sheldon Whitehouse  
United States Senator



Ron Wyden  
United States Senator