



AMERICANS *for* TAX REFORM

1 February 2010

The Honorable Tom Harkin, Chairman
Senate Committee on Health, Education,
Labor and Pensions
731 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Enzi, Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Health, Education,
Labor and Pensions
379A Senate Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20516

Dear Chairman Harkin and Ranking Member Enzi:

On behalf of Americans for Tax Reform (ATR), and millions of taxpayers, **I urge you to oppose President Obama's nominee to the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) Craig Becker, and place a hold until Senator-elect Scott Brown is seated.**

If the Senate's schedule remains unchanged, a cloture vote on Mr. Becker is expected Thursday, February 4. Such a move will disenfranchise the Senate's newest member, Massachusetts Senator Scott Brown. Democratic leadership reaffirmed numerous times that the Senate would not vote on any health care legislation until Senator Brown is seated.

Harry Reid: "We're not going to rush into anything. We're going to wait until the new senator arrives to do more on health care."

Jim Webb: "It is vital that we restore the respect of the American people in our system of government and in our leaders. To that end, I believe it would only be fair and prudent that we suspend further votes on health care legislation until Senator-elect Brown is seated."

The magnitude of health care legislation is unquestionable; Democrats should be applauded for delaying a Senate vote until Mr. Brown is seated. Similarly, Craig Becker's nomination for the NLRB is of comparable magnitude and should also be postponed until Senator Brown is seated. A vote for Becker is a vote for card check.

Mr. Becker represents the deciding vote on the NLRB, an immensely powerful body. Members of the NLRB have the critical tasks of supervising union elections, investigating labor practices, and interpreting the National Labor Relations Act. Authorizing Mr. Becker to, potentially, change the employer-employee relationship without the entire Senate present is brash and short-sighted.

Therefore, I urge you to delay a confirmation vote on Mr. Becker, just as you did health care, until Senator-elect Mr. Brown is seated. Such a move, in Senator Webb's words, "would only be fair and prudent."

Onward,

Grover G. Norquist

Cc: All Members of the U.S. Senate

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