



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS

MEDIA ADVISORY

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International Association of Fire Fighters Leaders Release Statements on Confirmation of Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh

The International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) congratulates Marty Walsh on his confirmation to be U.S. Secretary of Labor. Walsh is a great friend of fire fighters and, as labor secretary, will fight for the rights of unions and all middle-class families under pro-labor President Joe Biden. The IAFF looks forward to working with Walsh to advocate for fire fighters and working families throughout the U.S.

“Marty Walsh is a tireless champion for fire fighters and working families throughout the United States. He will take every opportunity to work across party lines to improve workplace conditions, benefits and rights,” says **General President-Elect Edward A. Kelly**.

“As mayor, he has made unprecedented investments in fire fighter safety. What he has done for fire fighters and all of labor in Boston should be emulated throughout our great nation.

“During his time as mayor, Marty’s commitment to the health and safety of our fire fighters was second to none, but his passion wasn’t just for fire fighters – it was for pulling people up. And that trait, his determination to make the job safer, fairer and better for all working people is what he brings to the Department of Labor.”

General President Harold A. Schaitberger says, “On behalf of 324,000 IAFF members, congratulations to Marty Walsh on his confirmation as Secretary of Labor.

“Marty understands the importance of standing up for workers. His experience as a union leader and as Boston mayor gives him the unique perspective that will help him transition the Department of Labor into an organization that will set rules and conditions to benefit working people in America.

“Secretary Walsh was always a strong supporter of our members of Local 718 and the Boston Fire Department and is a great friend of our incoming General President, Ed Kelly.

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Our nation now has an incredible opportunity for workers and their families as unions are poised to once again grow and prosper under the leadership of President Joe Biden and his Secretary of Labor, Marty Walsh.

“Every American worker will be better off because of President Biden's choice today. I am beyond proud to see a close friend soar to the heights of a cabinet position. He will be missed dearly in Boston, but the whole nation will benefit.”

“The confirmation of Marty Walsh as Secretary of Labor is a welcome change for working families across the United States. He understands the importance of strong unions and their role in labor – because he has lived it,” says **General Secretary-Treasurer-Elect Frank V. Lima**. “When it comes to leadership in labor in the United States, Marty Walsh has consistently delivered. Throughout his time as mayor of Boston and his incredible relationship with, not just fire fighters but, all his workers, he has never forgotten his roots in the House of Labor. I stand with all my union brothers and sisters and IAFF members and congratulate Secretary Walsh on his confirmation.”

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