



May 11, 2017

The Honorable Jaime Herrera Beutler
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies
U.S. House Committee on Appropriations
1107 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Herrera Beutler:

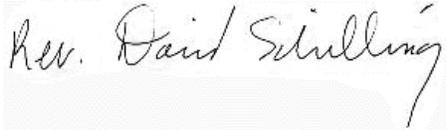
The undersigned investors have engaged US companies in their portfolios on a range of human rights issues that are a part of the 'corporate responsibility to respect' human rights as articulated by the [United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights](#). A major focus of shareowner engagements with publicly-traded companies is the adoption and implementation of global supply chain policies based on the International Labor Organization's core labor standards that include forced labor, child labor, non-discrimination, freedom of association and collective bargaining. Sound supply chain management systems lay a foundation for the detection and remediation of workplace human rights abuses that minimize the risk to companies, investors and to workers in supplier facilities throughout the world.

Investors and companies have relied on the programs, resources and expertise of the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB) to inform these systems. The Bureau's efforts to promote the elimination of child labor and forced labor, negotiating and enforcing strong labor provisions in U.S. trade agreements, and engaging U.S. trading partners on international labor standard compliance benefit companies that are implementing human rights due diligence effectively. Through its grants, ILAB has supported 270 projects in more than 90 countries to combat child labor. The Bureau also publishes a widely-cited annual List of Goods Produced by Child or Forced Labor, which helps investors and companies to identify the high-risk global sectors where human trafficking is occurring. The funding of ILAB's work is critical to ensuring that companies can meet their responsibility to respect human rights and enforce their supply chain practices.

As you work to complete the Fiscal Year 2018 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, we respectfully ask that you provide at least \$91 million in funding, the same funding level as FY2015, for the Bureau. ILAB negotiates and enforces labor commitments with our trading partners, and the Bureau will need an additional \$5 million to carry out President Trump's trade agenda, which includes the reevaluation, renegotiation, and enhanced enforcement of U.S. free trade agreements.

We believe ILAB's efforts to strengthen international labor standards are playing a critical role in the elimination of child and forced labor. We urge you to provide at least \$91 million in funding to ensure ILAB can continue its mission to improve the working conditions and rights of workers around the world.

Sincerely,



Rev. David Schilling
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Investor Signatories:

Adrian Dominican Sisters, Portfolio Advisory Board	Northwest Coalition for Responsible Investment
Congregation of Holy Cross Moreau Province	Priests of the Sacred Heart, US Province
Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes	Responsible Sourcing Network
Congregation of St. Joseph	School Sisters of Notre Dame - Central Pacific Province CR Committee
Dana Investment Advisors	School Sisters of St. Francis
Daughters of Charity, Province of St. Louise	Seventh Generation Interfaith Inc.
Dignity Health	Sinsinawa Shareholder Action Committee
Diocese of Springfield, IL	Sisters of Bon Secours USA
Dominican Sisters ~ Grand Rapids (MI)	Sisters of Charity, Halifax
Dominican Sisters of Amityville	Sisters of Saint Joseph of Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, PA
Dominican Sisters of Springfield, IL	Sisters of St. Dominic of Caldwell NJ
Dominicans of Sinsinawa Shareholder Committee	Sisters of the Good Shepherd
Franciscan Sisters of Allegany NY	Sisters of the Presentation of the BVM
Maryknoll Sisters	Trinity Health
Mercy Health	Tri-State Coalition for Responsible Investment
Mercy Investment Services	United Methodist Church Foundation
NorthStar Asset Management, Inc.	