



Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader

February 11, 2016

Dear Members of the Rules Committee,

I am pleased to write in support of Mayor Edwin Lee's nomination of Eleni Kounalakis to the San Francisco Port Commission. Ambassador Kounalakis has a uniquely diverse portfolio of work as a first generation American businesswoman, philanthropist and diplomat, and I am confident that she would be an asset to the Port Commission and the evolution of the waterfront of the City and County of San Francisco.

From 2010 to 2013, she served as the U.S. Ambassador to Hungary, appointed by President Obama. She is the first, and so far the only Greek American woman ever to serve as a U.S. Ambassador. During her tenure, Ambassador Kounalakis showed an unrelenting commitment to the principles of democracy for the people of Hungary and a passion for fostering and strengthening international relationships.

Ambassador Kounalakis has worked tirelessly both locally and internationally to identify industries with growth potential. In 2014, Governor Jerry Brown appointed Ambassador Kounalakis to serve as Chair of the newly formed California International Trade and Investment Advisory Council, a body tasked with advising the state government on strategies to take advantage of international business and investment opportunities. Previously, Ambassador Kounalakis served as a California State World Trade Commissioner and on the California Children and Families Commission, a body that oversees the development and funding of child care programs for children and their families throughout California.

Ambassador Kounalakis offers impressive experience in diplomacy and an unwavering passion for her work and the people she serves. She will be a strong advocate for all of the communities that utilize our waterfront, and as such, I wholeheartedly support her nomination and encourage your support as well.

best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nancy Pelosi".

NANCY PELOSI
Democratic Leader