INTERNATIONAL LONGSHORE & WAREHOUSE UNION



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February 4, 2016

Honorable Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU), I am writing to pledge our support for Mayor Lee's nomination of Ambassador Eleni Kounalakis to the San Francisco Port Commission. Ambassador Kounalakis's background as a businesswoman and diplomat paired with her knowledge of the Bay Area will be an asset to the San Francisco community as we work together to help the Port of San Francisco grow and prosper.

Ambassador Kounalakis gained invaluable diplomatic experience during her tenure as the Ambassador to Hungary from 2010-2013. In addition, she 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. Both of these experiences will be especially beneficial to the port and labor alike in our efforts to cultivate the maritime industry and bring good jobs to the ever expanding city of San Francisco.

Ambassador Kounalakis's experience in diplomacy and unwavering passion for her work and the people she serves. She will be a strong advocate for not only labor, but all of the communities that utilize our waterfront. As such, I support this nomination.

Sincerely,

International President

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