

May 22, 2025

The Honorable Bill Cassidy
Chairman, Senate Committee on Health,
Education, Labor and Pensions
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bernie Sanders
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Health,
Education, Labor and Pensions
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Cassidy, Ranking Member Sanders, and Members of the Senate HELP Committee,

We are writing to express our strong support for the nomination of Wayne Palmer to serve as Assistant Secretary of Labor for the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA). Our members represent the backbone of the construction materials industry, which collectively employ thousands of workers and supply essential materials for America's infrastructure. Ensuring the safety, health and well-being of our workforce is our highest priority, and we believe Mr. Palmer is exceptionally qualified to lead MSHA in advancing this shared goal.

Mr. Palmer brings a wealth of experience and a proven commitment to advancing workplace safety, making him exceptionally qualified to lead MSHA in its critical mission to protect the health and safety of the nation's miners. His extensive background in the mining industry, coupled with his prior service as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary at MSHA from 2017 to 2021 and as Acting Assistant Secretary, demonstrates his deep understanding of the agency's operations and the challenges facing the construction materials industry. Additionally, his experience as a senior advisor in the Department of Labor's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs and as a former Senate chief of staff equips him with the leadership and collaborative skills necessary to foster effective partnerships between MSHA, industry stakeholders, and regulators.

We respectfully urge the Senate HELP Committee to advance Mr. Palmer's nomination and confirm him as Assistant Secretary of Labor for MSHA. Our associations stand ready to work with him to ensure that America's mining industry remains a global leader in safety and productivity.

Thank you for your consideration of this important nomination. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can provide additional information or support.

Sincerely,

American Cement Association
National Asphalt Pavement Association
National Ready Mixed Concrete Association
National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association