



May 1, 2018

The Honorable Michael Sirotkin
115 State Street
Montpelier, Vermont
05633-5301

Dear Chair Sirotkin:

We write today on behalf of tens of thousands of union members represented by the constituent labor unions of Working Vermont, to make clear our collective opposition to the appointment of Karen O'Neill as a neutral member of the Vermont Labor Relations Board.

Ms. O'Neill's long résumé highlights her extensive experience as an advocate for management and as an executive. This background would make her a well-qualified member of the Board as a management representative. The fact, however, that she lacks any work on or behalf of labor whatsoever, coupled with her partnership in a law firm that promotes its success "defeat[ing] union organizing drives," makes her unqualified to serve as a neutral.

Vermonters, Vermont workers, and the members of our constituent unions must have confidence that their cases before the Labor Relations Board will be fairly and appropriately adjudicated; Ms. O'Neill's inclusion as a neutral member would make that an impossibility.

Respectfully,

Working Vermont
Vermont State Employees' Association
Vermont-NEA
International Brotherhood of Teamsters
Vermont Troopers Association
American Federation of Teachers
United Nurses and Allied Professions
Vermont Building & Construction Trades
Professional Firefighters of Vermont
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees
United Association of Plumbers, Fitters, Welders and HVAC Service Techs
Vermont State Labor Council — AFL-CIO

cc:

The Honorable Alison Clarkson
The Honorable Philip Baruth
The Honorable Becca Balint
The Honorable David Soucy
The Honorable Tim Ashe