

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1104

January 19, 2018

Mr. Oscar Munoz
Chief Executive Officer
United Airlines, Inc.
233 S. Wacker Drive
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Mr. Munoz:

I write today to thank you for the leadership you have shown to foster a positive relationship with United Airlines' labor unions. In 2016, for example, you worked to settle contracts with most of your unionized work groups, which resulted in well-deserved raises for thousands of dedicated and hard-working United Airlines employees. This decision benefited many of my constituents and I am thankful for your recognition of their value to the company.

While close to 80% of United Airlines' 80,000 employees (pilots, flight attendants, baggage handlers, aircraft mechanics, passenger service agents) are members of a union, the catering workers who are directly employed by United Airlines are the only non-managerial, frontline workers currently without union representation. United Airlines catering operates five inflight catering kitchens, one of which is based in Honolulu, and employs over 2,000 workers nationally. The Honolulu kitchen employs 150 of my constituents.

I have been informed the catering workers are organizing with UNITE HERE and are preparing to exercise their right to collectively bargain by filing for a union election with the National Mediation Board (NMB) in accordance with the Railroad Labor Act (RLA). Once the workers have filed for an election with 50% of their entire national unit on cards, the NMB will determine if and when the election will be held. I urge that United Airlines respect the employees' decision to organize and I intend to stay closely apprised of this process as it moves forward.

All United Airlines employees deserve equal standing and a chance to earn an honest wage with good benefits so they are able to provide for their families and focus on doing their jobs to the best of their ability. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Mazie K. Hirono
U.S. Senator

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