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APALA Opposes #AntiLaborSecretary Pick Andrew Puzder

Washington, DC – The Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, AFL-CIO (APALA) vehemently opposes the confirmation of the U.S. Department of Labor Secretary nominee Andrew Puzder, a clear Cabinet choice pandering to corporate interests and a betrayal to all working families in the country.

"Puzder has no business serving in the White House cabinet," declared Johanna Puno Hester, APALA National President and Assistant Executive Director of the United Domestic Workers, AFSCME Local 3930. "A millionaire whose appalling track record has demonstrated his opposition to overtime pay and increasing the minimum wage and whose companies also have a history of workers' rights violations, Puzder has no place in leading an agency meant to protect the very workers his companies continue to exploit."

"If confirmed, there's no doubt that Puzder will continue to drive a gap between the wealthy 1% and the rest of working people and families in America," added APALA Executive Director Gregory A. Cendana. "Too long have profits came before the people, and #AntiLaborSecretary Puzder is one of the worst picks to support working families."

Monica Thammarath, APALA 1st Vice President and National Education Association Senior Liaison, added: "Not only has Puzder shown that he is unqualified to be Labor Secretary but also has he shown his blatant misogyny and pursuit of an anti-woman agenda. It's sadly unsurprising that this administration is shaping up to be an anti-worker, anti-woman, pro-corporate greed, corrupt administration. Like Betsy Devos, Puzder and his wife have donated hundreds of thousands of dollars to Trump's campaign -- it's clear that this administration will continue to be 'pay to play,' favoring only the wealthy white status quo."

"Our fight for working families will become that much harder with Puzder at the helm," concluded Cendana. "We urge you to pick up your phone, call your Senators, and tell them why they need to vote NO on Puzder's confirmation--for our communities, our country and our future."

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The **Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance** (APALA), AFL-CIO was founded in 1992 as the first and only national organization for Asian Pacific American union members to advance worker, immigrant and civil rights.

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