

COALITION FOR A
DEMOCRATIC WORKPLACE

September 9, 2014

Dear Chairman Roe and Ranking Member Tierney:

On behalf of the Coalition for a Democratic Workplace (CDW), I write to thank you for holding today's hearing titled, "Expanding Joint Employer Status: What Does it Mean for Workers and Job Creators?" We applaud the Committee for exploring the National Labor Relations Board's (Board or NLRB) efforts to alter its joint employer standard and the potential impact of the Board's actions on workers and job creators.

CDW is a broad-based coalition of over 600 organizations representing millions of businesses, which employ hundreds of millions of employees nationwide in nearly every industry. CDW members are joined by their mutual concern over recent actions by the NLRB, which threaten entrepreneurs, other employers, employees and economic growth.

On May 12, 2014, the NLRB issued an invitation to the public to file amicus briefs in *Browning-Ferris Industries* on whether the Board should revisit its 30 year-old joint employer standards, and on June 29 the NLRB's general counsel announced that it will move forward with 43 cases where McDonald's USA has been named a joint employer with franchisees. The changes the Board is considering making to the joint employer standard threaten to disrupt decades of established law that has paved the way for franchisors, franchisees, contractors, and subcontractors to create millions of jobs and allowed hundreds of thousands to achieve the American dream of owning their own small business. The Board's actions could severely and negatively impact entrepreneurial opportunities and job creation, and threaten our already fragile economy.

CDW urges the Committee and the House of Representatives to explore this issue and, where appropriate, take action to protect the jobs and business models reliant on the joint employer standard for the last 30 years. We look forward to working with you on this important matter.

Sincerely,



Geoffrey Burr

Chair, the Coalition for a Democratic Workplace