January 6, 2017

The Honorable Reginald Jones-Sawyer, Co-Chair
The Honorable Mark Stone, Co-Chair
Assembly Special Committee on the Office of the Attorney General
ATTN: Cindy Morante – Cindy.Morante@asm.ca.gov
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Appointment of **Congressman Xavier Becerra** as California Attorney General. **(SUPPORT)**

Dear Assemblymember Jones-Sawyer:

The California Professional Firefighters (CPF), state council of the International Association of Fire Fighters, representing over 30,000 career firefighting and emergency medical service personnel statewide, **strongly supports** Governor Brown's appointment of Congressman Xavier Becerra as California's next Attorney General.

Firefighters know what it's like on the front line, where our members stand ready each day to defend the lives and property of our state's residents. The role of the Attorney General is just as important when it comes to defending issues critical not only to firefighters, but all California workers. Indeed, now more than ever California needs an Attorney General whose life's work demonstrates a steadfast commitment to working families.

With respect to firefighters, Congressman Becerra has consistently supported robust funding for FIRE and SAFER grants, which enhance the public's safety by providing California's fire departments with needed personnel and equipment. Additionally, he has fought to protect federal workplace health and safety standards and make certain that 9/11 first responders receive the health care and compensation they deserve. Further, Congressman Becerra has stood up to safeguard federal and state occupational death benefits, which are extended to the survivors of fallen firefighters and other public safety officers who make the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

The above are but a few examples of Congressman Becerra's numerous accomplishments. As evidenced by his distinguished public service record, Congressman Becerra possesses the skills and experience needed to successfully fulfill the role of California Attorney General at an uncertain time in our state's history. For these reasons, CPF enthusiastically supports the appointment confirmation of Congressman Xavier Becerra.

We appreciate, in advance, for your thoughtful consideration of our comments in this regard.

Sincerely,

LOU PAULSON
President
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