JASON CROW

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Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

February 19, 2021

UCHealth Workers United/ CWA 7799 Organizing Committee 1375 N High St, Apt 604 Denver, CO 80218-2648

Dear Organizing Committee,

In the face of this devastating global pandemic, we must acknowledge the risks frontline workers endure every day and come together as a country to care for one another. Now more than ever, it is evident that frontline health care workers are the fabric of our community's public health safety net.

For decades, unions have played a vital role in setting standards for education, wages, working conditions, and quality of life for all Americans. During the COVID-19 pandemic, it's even more important that workers--especially those on our frontlines-- are able to join together and speak with a collective voice to improve their workplace and working conditions.

As UCHealth workers organize through the newly formed UCHealth Workers United, I urge UCHealth to respect the collective bargaining rights of these frontline workers. UCHealth workers are critical to our public health and our community, and they have every right to join a union and to grow its membership. Any resources expended to infringe upon this process is money not spent in serving the community during this unprecedented crisis.

As a Member of Congress, I am committed to strengthening collective bargaining rights and fighting for workers. I strongly believe that UCHealth and the UCHealth Workers United should immediately reach an agreement to ensure the continued care for our community.

Sincerely,

JASON CROW Member of Congress

Senator Janet Buckner Senate District 28 200 E Colfax, Denver, CO 80203 janet.buckner.senate@state.co.us



2021 Committees Health and Human Services Education

March 1, 2021

Dear UCHealth Executives and UC Hospital Authority Board of Directors,

We are writing, as elected officials, to ask that you listen to the collective voices of frontline workers at UCHealth. Their safety, patient safety, and the health of our community depends on it.

In our lifetimes, we have never experienced anything like the COVID-19 pandemic. Everyone who is signing this letter has been touched personally by the pandemic in some way. To date, over 425,000 Coloradans have contracted the disease and over 6000 have died. Many survivors have developed medical complications that will have long lasting health effects.

Each life connects to family, friends, neighborhoods, and our communities. Yet these effects have been unequally felt; essential workers, the elderly, and those most harmed by systemic racism, poverty, and health inequities bear the brunt. And it is not over.

Through it all, frontline workers at UCHealth have never stopped working and never stopped caring. They have worked through PPE shortages, through staffing shortages, through fear, and through grief. As you read this, they are at the bedside, in the labs, at their desks, in the kitchen, in the operating rooms, writing orders, treating patients, and being there when we need them.

Amidst these unpredecented challenges, our essential frontline workers now tell us that they need a collective voice in order to stay safe and strong. They assert that they actually needed this movement years ago, to address concerns with working and caring conditions that pre-existed the pandemic. They intend to use their organization to affect positive change that will go beyond this public health emergency and beyond the walls of UCHealth.

Try as we might, the many institutions of this state and country have not insulated frontline workers or our communities from the devastating effects of COVID-19. Existing structures have not kept any of us free from harm. So when they say they need an independent, collective voice at work through the newly formed UCHealth Workers United, we hear them and we support them. We ask that you do, too.

As elected officials, we urge you to respect and listen to UCHealth Workers United and address their urgent concerns. In addition, we request that you not expend precious resources to discourage frontline UCHealth workers from unionization or to retaliate against those involved. None of us can be safe if health care workers are afraid to exercise their freedom of speech and association. Will you give us your

commitment that you will partner with UCHealth Workers United for the common good of patients, workers and the community?

We now understand that a powerful, independent voice by and for frontline health care workers is urgently needed. We hope you can see that, too.

Sincerely, Senator Janet Buckner Majority Caucus Co Chair Meg Froelich

Senator Jeff Bridges Senator James Coleman Senator Jessie Danielson Senate Majority Leader Stephen Fenberg Senate Assistant Majority Leader Rhonda Fields Senator Joann Ginal Senator Julie Gonzales Senator Chris Hansen Senator Sonya Jaquez Lewis Senator Chris Kolker Senator Drittany Pettersen Senator Dominick Moreno Senator Robert Rodriguez Senator Tammy Story Senator Faith Winter

Representative Jennifer Bacon Representative Tracey Bernett Representative Shannon Bird Representative Yadira Caraveo Majority Caucus Co Chair Lisa Cutter Representative Lindsey Daugherty Majority Co Whip Monica Duran Majority Leader Daneya Esgar Representative Tony Exum Speaker Alec Garnett Assistant Majority Leader Serena Gonzales-Gutierrez Representative Edie Hooton Representative Dominique Jackson Representative Iman Jodeh Representative Chris Kennedy Representative Cathy Kipp Representative Susan Lontine Representative Julie McCluskie Representative Karen McCormick Representative Barbara McLachlan Representative Dafna Michaelson Jenet Majority Co Whip Kyle Mullica Representative David Ortiz Representative Dylan Roberts **Representative Emily Sirota** Representative Tom Sullivan Representative Kerry Tipper Representative Brianna Titone Representative Alex Valdez Representative Donald Valdez Representative Mike Weissman Representative Steven Woodrow **Representative Mary Young**

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www.perlmutter.house.gov



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

February 18, 2021

UCHealth Workers United/ CWA 7799 Organizing Committee 1375 N High St, Apt 604 Denver, CO 80218-2648

Dear Organizing Committee,

Thank you for contacting my office about the rights of workers to fairly negotiate salary and employment benefits. As we continue to battle a global pandemic, it is more important than ever we maintain a safe and effective work environment for our frontline workers.

My family's construction business was a union shop where both the business and the employees prospered, which gives me a unique perspective on this issue. I believe communities thrive when workers are paid fairly and receive strong benefits, and I support the right of workers to collectively bargain for these benefits.

It is my hope UCHealth and CWA will work together to find a path forward that will benefit healthcare workers and provide quality care to patients. Our healthcare workers have worked through resource and staffing shortages and have put their lives on the line every day during this COVID-19 pandemic.

I believe our businesses and communities prosper when workers are paid fairly and receive health care and retirement benefits so they can provide for their families and remain productive members of our communities. I appreciate the work of the Communications Workers of America and all you do to support workers in our community. Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

Ed Perlmutter Member of Congress