

2022 Legislative Priority: Fully Staff the Federal Labor Relations Authority

Background: Due to Senate inaction in the 117th Congress, the Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA) lost its majority of good-faith members, and still has a vacancy in the General Counsel position. While Member Susan Tsui Grundmann was recently designated Chairman of the FLRA, there is still a vacant member position.

Current Status: Former Chairman DuBester's holdover status ended with the 117th Congress on January 3, 2023. The FLRA remains hobbled by a lack of a General Counsel. Federal Sector unions and agencies cannot effectively resolve their differences because the two remaining members have stark ideological differences.

Impact: Since Chairman DuBester was not confirmed by the end of the 117th Congress, the FLRA lost its majority of good-faith members. Member Colleen Duffy Kiko is partially responsible (along with her fellow Trump appointee, former Member James Abbott) for some of the most egregious, anti-worker, unsupported, and indefensible decisions in the history of the FLRA. Her record has been characterized as full of "unprecedented bias," and her decisions as "specious," "arbitrary and capricious," "unreasoned and unreasonable," and "simply incorrect." Allowing the FLRA to have a vacant third member position is endorsing a return to the Trump-era chaotic rejection of the concepts of precedent, rule of law, equity, and fairness. If the Senate does not confirm an FLRA General Counsel by the end of July 2023, the FLRA will be unable to prosecute unfair labor practice charges at all.

Requested Actions:

- Pledge to support efficient committee and Senate floor votes on the FLRA Member and General Counsel positions.
- Support the individuals that President Biden appoints to the FLRA and to its General Counsel position.

Local 777, IFPTE, AFL-CIO represents over 200 employees of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Chicago District. We work in Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin and plan, design, build, operate, and maintain Federal water resources infrastructure and environmental restorations, and protect our nation's aquatic resources and commercial navigation.

Our members work in offices, on construction sites, at locks and dams, on government vessels, at flood control reservoirs, and at dredged material management and electric barrier facilities.

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