

NTEU

The National Treasury Employees Union

December 3, 2009

The Honorable Harry Reid
Majority Leader
U. S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Majority Leader:

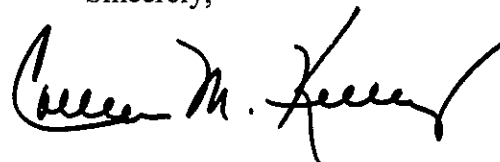
As President of the largest independent federal employees' union, I am writing to request that you schedule floor time to consider the nomination of Erroll Southers to be Administrator at the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) at your earliest convenience. The National Treasury Employees Union's (NTEU) members at TSA have been disheartened by the actions of some senators on the other side of the aisle in their attempt to stall this action.

Mr. Southers' nomination was unanimously approved by the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee and overwhelmingly approved by the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee, with only two Republican dissenting votes. Clearly, this is a man well-qualified to be TSA Administrator, who has the support necessary to be confirmed by the full Senate.

TSA is an agency in need of a leader. In its six years of existence, it has had ten reorganizations. Its workforce struggles under arbitrary rules and regulations, a performance system that does not measure the work they do, a pay system plagued by cronyism and obfuscation, and a training program that is ill-funded. It is critical that the Southers nomination be acted upon before the holiday recess.

NTEU stands ready to help in whatever way necessary to get this nomination approved by the U. S. Senate. We appreciate your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Colleen M. Kelley
National President