UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS



1331 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW, WASHINGTON, DC 20425

www.usccr.gov

The Honorable Mitch McConnell U.S. Senate Office of the Majority Leader The Capitol, S-230 Washington, D.C. 20510

August 6, 2018

Dear Leader McConnell:

I write as one member of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, and not on behalf of the Commission as a whole, to urge you to speedily invoke cloture on Eric Dreiband's nomination to head the Civil Rights Division.

It is critical that Mr. Dreiband soon be confirmed to head the Civil Rights Division. The Civil Rights Division is responsible for enforcing the law in areas that are vitally important to the country as a whole and to President Trump's policy priorities. The Civil Rights Division is responsible for enforcing laws protecting the right to vote, religious liberty, and the rights of those with disabilities, among others. Just last year, "the Civil Rights Division launched the Protecting U.S. Workers Initiative, which is aimed at targeting, investigating, and taking enforcement measures against companies that discriminate against U.S. workers in favor of foreign visa workers."¹ Although the Civil Rights Division is doing a good job implementing the President's policy priorities, it will be even more effective with Mr. Dreiband at its head.

Finally, it is unusual that it has taken so long to confirm someone as esteemed as Mr. Dreiband. Mr. Dreiband previously served as the general counsel of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and is a partner at a well-respected law firm. He is well-qualified for the position to which he has been nominated. I urge all senators to vote to confirm him.

Thank you,

Peter Kirsanow Commissioner

¹ Departments of Justice and Labor Formalize New Partnership to Protect U.S. Workers from Discrimination and Combat Visa Abuse, July 31, 2018, <u>https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/departments-justice-and-labor-formalize-new-partnership-protect-us-workers-discrimination-a-0</u>.