

The Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County, California

In the matter of recognizing Laphonza Butler for
receiving the Frances Perkins Award

Resolution No. 2018/497

WHEREAS, Laphonza Butler serves the 325,000 members of SEIU 2015, their clients and their families as a fierce warrior for the “dignity, respect and economic security of all people”; and

WHEREAS, after graduating Jackson State University, Butler organized health care and service workers in Wisconsin, Connecticut, Pennsylvania and Maryland, arriving in Los Angeles in 2001 to take the helm of SEIU 6434. Rising to the union’s presidency was followed in 2013 with Butler’s election as president of SEIU State Council; and

WHEREAS, as SEIU State Council President, Laphonza Butler led the “Raise the Wage” the fight for a \$15 minimum wage; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her role leading one of the largest unions in California - with more than 6,000 members in Contra Costa alone - Butler serves as a Vice President of SEIU International; and

WHEREAS, in 2016 she represented her union, and all of California, at the Democratic National Convention as a brilliant speaker. Butler works to improve the lives of all working women and their families through her service as a Board Member for the National Children’s Defense Fund and the Bay Area Economic Council Institute, is a fellow for the MIT Community Innovators Lab, and formerly was Director for the Board of Governors of the Los Angeles branch of the Federal Reserve System; and

WHEREAS, in August 2017, Governor Jerry Brown appointed Laphonza Butler to the University of California Board of Regents; and

WHEREAS, in Butler’s own words: “The members of SEIU 2015 believe that in order for unions to be relevant in the 21st century they must become broader and more inclusive movements that fight for a justice agenda that advocates for the dignity, respect, and economic security for all people. Our members have the same dreams, hopes, and optimism for a prosperous future that every worker has. We want the ability to breathe clean air and drink clean water, the right to join a union, and to build a life full of dignity and hope - where people look beyond the color of our skin or the language that we speak.”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County does hereby honor and congratulate Laphonza Butler for receiving the Frances Perkins Award.

PASSED by a unanimous vote of the Board of Supervisors members present this 18th day of September, 2018.



KAREN MITCHOFF

Chair,
District IV Supervisor



JOHN GIOIA
District I Supervisor



CANDACE ANDERSEN
District II Supervisor



DIANE BURGIS
District III Supervisor

ABSENT

FEDERAL D. GLOVER
District V Supervisor



I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown:

ATTESTED: September 18, 2018

DAVID TWA, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and County Administrator

By Stephanie Mello, Deputy