

K-Binder

REMARKS OF

GOVERNOR THOMAS H. KEAN

AT THE

PRESS CONFERENCE

ANNOUNCING THE APPOINTMENT OF CHARLES SERRAINO

TO THE POST OF NEW JERSEY COMMISSIONER OF LABOR

SEPTEMBER 7, 1984

GOOD AFTERNOON.

I COME BEFORE YOU TODAY WITH A VERY HAPPY TASK -- AND THAT IS TO ANNOUNCE MY NOMINATION OF CHARLIE SERRAINO TO BE THE NEXT COMMISSIONER OF LABOR FOR THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

YOU KNOW, WHEN ROGER BODMAN ANNOUNCED THAT HE WAS RESIGNING FROM THIS POST, WE BEGAN AN EXTENSIVE SEARCH FOR HIS REPLACEMENT. THE SEARCH WAS EXTENSIVE -- WE CONSIDERED A GREAT NUMBER OF CANDIDATES.

BUT THE MORE I THOUGHT ABOUT IT, THE MORE I REALIZED THAT WE DIDN'T HAVE TO LOOK TOO FAR TO FIND THE PERSON WHO IS WITHOUT A DOUBT THE BEST MAN FOR THE JOB.

CHARLIE SERRAINO HAS THE EXPERIENCE, THE INTEGRITY, AND THE WIDESPREAD RESPECT THAT ARE NEEDED TO DO AN EXCELLENT JOB. CLEARLY, HE IS HELD IN HIGH REGARD BY LEADERS IN LABOR, IN BUSINESS, AND IN GOVERNMENT. HIS QUALIFICATIONS AND HIS ABILITY ARE UNQUESTIONED.

THIS ADMINISTRATION -- AND THIS STATE -- HAVE ALREADY BENEFITTED FROM CHARLIE'S SERVICES. AS MY SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE ON LABOR AFFAIRS DURING THESE PAST TWO YEARS, HE HAS BEEN THE KEY FIGURE IN BRINGING A NUMBER OF CRITICAL ISSUES TO A SUCCESSFUL SETTLEMENT.

HE WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN NEGOTIATING THE NEW CONTRACT WITH STATE EMPLOYEES WHICH WAS SIGNED LAST YEAR.

HIS WORK WITH THE LABOR COMMUNITY PLAYED A PIVOTAL ROLE IN WINNING LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL OF THE TRANSPORTATION TRUST FUND, WHICH WILL HAVE SO MANY BENEFITS FOR THE PEOPLE OF THIS STATE IN THE YEARS TO COME.

AND CHARLIE WAS THE KEY PLAYER IN SOLVING THE GARBAGE HAULERS WORK STOPPAGE THIS SUMMER.

OF COURSE, CHARLIE HAS CONTRIBUTED FAR MORE THAN THAT.
HE DID AN OUTSTANDING JOB AS GOVERNOR BILL CAHILL'S
COMMISSIONER OF LABOR IN 1970 AND 1971.

WHAT HAS SERVED CHARLIE SO WELL, AND WHAT IS CERTAIN TO
MAKE HIM ONE OF THE BEST LABOR COMMISSIONERS THIS STATE HAS
EVER SEEN, IS THIS KIND OF EXPERIENCE: HIS LONG-STANDING
RELATIONSHIP WITH THE MEMBERS OF THE LABOR COMMUNITY, HIS
WORK IN BOTH BUSINESS AND LABOR, HIS WELL-EARNED REPUTATION
AS A MAN OF HIS WORD -- AND AS A MAN WHO CAN GET THINGS DONE.

I WILL SUBMIT CHARLIE'S NAME TO THE SENATE FOR
CONFIRMATION WHEN THE SENATE RETURNS ON SEPTEMBER 13TH.

I AM DELIGHTED THAT HE HAS ACCEPTED MY OFFER TO SERVE,
I AM CONVINCED THAT THERE IS NO ONE IN THIS STATE WHO HAS
GREATER KNOWLEDGED, INSIGHT, AND ABILITY TO DEAL WITH
LABOR-RELATED PROBLEMS, AND I AM NOW VERY HAPPY TO PRESENT
TO YOU COMMISSIONER-DESIGNATE CHARLES SERRAINO.

CHARLIE: