SENATE MAJORITY LEADER HARRY REID
REMARKS AT NOMINATION HEARING FOR KATHERINE TOBIN
THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 2012

Chairman Lieberman, Ranking Member Collins, and members of the committee, it is a pleasure to be here today to introduce my friend, Dr. Katherine Tobin.

With the current state of the US Postal Service, the Postal Board of Governors needs candidates that can hit the ground running.

With billions in losses mounting at the Postal Service, there is no margin for error – and no time for on-the-job training.

That's why Katherine Tobin is uniquely qualified to serve on the Board of Governors of the United States Postal Service.

Dr. Tobin is already familiar with the post office's operations and finances from her previous service on the board.

I recommended Katherine to serve on the Board of Governors under President Bush.

She was confirmed unanimously by the Senate in 2006, and served as Chairwoman of the Board's Audit and Finance Committee.

The committee oversaw the Postal Service's financial controls, internal accounting and financial statements.

In this role she dealt with complex, financial issues, including pension liabilities and compliance with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act.

She left in 2009 to pursue an opportunity with the Department of Education. But I am pleased that she is once again willing to serve the Postal Service during time of great need.

Dr. Tobin also has a broad business background, and more than a decade of private-sector experience.

She worked as a manager and consultant to Hewlett-Packard and IBM, among other Fortune 500 companies.

And she has served as a faculty member and administrator at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and Manhattanville and Skidmore colleges.

Dr. Tobin earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Skidmore College, a Masters degree from the University of Massachusetts' School of Education and both a Masters degree and a Ph.D. from Stanford University's School of Education.

Katherine is qualified, competent and dedicated. And I am pleased to recommend her confirmation.

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