



T. Sui SFSU

Elaine Chao

Chinese American

U.S. Secretary of Labor & Transportation

Elaine Chao (1953-) was born in Taiwan and came to the United States when she was eight years old. She learned English quickly by studying every night. When she grew up, Elaine worked well with people. She was chosen to give advice to two U.S. Presidents. In 2001 – 2009, Elaine’s job was Secretary of Labor. She had to make sure that rules were followed to protect workers on the job and that they received fair pay. In 2017, she was asked to be Secretary of Transportation and that our highways and airplanes were safe. She was the first Asian American woman to be part of two Presidential cabinets.