

March 21, 2022

The Honorable Dick Durbin Chairman Senate Committee on the Judiciary U.S. Senate Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Chuck Grassley Ranking Member Senate Committee on the Judiciary U.S. Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

On behalf of the 1.7 million members of the American Federation of Teachers, I strongly support the historic nomination of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson for associate justice of the Supreme Court and urge you to vote yes on her confirmation.

Judge Jackson is an experienced, exceptionally qualified jurist who is devoted to the rule of law, the Constitution and our country's rich history of democracy and freedom. With broad experience across the legal profession—as a federal appellate judge, a federal district court judge, a member of the U.S. Sentencing Commission, an attorney in private practice and a federal public defender—Judge Jackson has more judicial experience than other recent Supreme Court nominees. She has been confirmed by the Senate three times with bipartisan support, most recently last year when she was confirmed to the D.C. Circuit.

Her life story is the story of America. As the daughter of Florida public school teachers, a proud public school graduate and a member of a law enforcement family, Judge Jackson's character, integrity and experience make her uniquely qualified to serve on the Supreme Court. Based on her impressive judicial record, extensive knowledge and particular understanding of the laws affecting working people, it is no surprise that Judge Jackson has been called "an unwavering voice for justice and fairness."

We need justices on the Supreme Court who have a demonstrated commitment to equal justice under the law and who will ensure that our rights are protected. Judge Jackson's judicial record upholds that ideal. There is widespread support for Judge Jackson's nomination, regardless of political affiliation, including praise and endorsements from the Fraternal Order of Police, the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives, crime victim survivors, unions and organized labor, US Black Chambers Inc., the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the Asian/Pacific Islander American Chamber of Commerce and Entrepreneurship, as well as from retired conservative federal judges and former Republican cabinet members. The broad list of support for Judge Jackson continues to grow.

American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO

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The American Federation of Teachers is a union of professionals that champions fairness; democracy; economic opportunity; and high-quality public education, healthcare and public services for our students, their families and our communities. We are committed to advancing these principles through community engagement, organizing, collective bargaining and political activism, and especially through the work our members do.



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The work of the Supreme Court impacts all our daily lives. As educators, we defend democracy every day—in our classrooms, in our communities and beyond. Progress does not always move quickly, but with this nomination, we take an important step forward in building a court that looks more like America and serves us all. We are confident, based on her experience and qualifications, that Judge Jackson will be a Supreme Court justice who will put justice first and protect equal justice for all.

Once again, I strongly urge you to support the nomination of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson and vote yes on advancing her nomination to the full Senate.

Sincerely,

Randi Weingarten

President, American Federation of Teachers

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cc: Members of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary