1620 L Street, NW Suite 1100 Washington, DC 20036 202.466.3311 voice 202.466.3435 fax www.civilrights.org

November 7, 2022



Dear Senator,

On behalf of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights and the undersigned 214 organizations, we write to emphasize the urgency of prioritizing the continued confirmation of experientially and demographically diverse judicial nominees by the end of the 117th Congress. We celebrate the progress made towards strengthening our judiciary with the confirmation of nominees committed to our civil rights, and we urge you to redouble your efforts so that all pending judicial nominees are confirmed.

For generations, the civil rights community has advocated for a federal judiciary that centers equal justice for all and reflects and represents the rich diversity of our nation. The progress made by President Biden, the Senate Judiciary Committee under Chair Durbin's leadership, and the full Senate is remarkable both in terms of pace of consideration and the qualifications of judicial nominees. To date, the Senate Judiciary Committee has advanced 109 judicial nominees and the Senate has confirmed 84 lifetime judicial appointments, which includes 55 judges of color, 63 women, 22 public defenders, and 17 civil rights lawyers. These historic achievements in an evenly split Senate, including the confirmation of Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, the first Black woman and first former public defender to serve on our nation's highest court, are important. Each confirmation of a judicial nominee who is committed to our civil rights makes a difference in the lives of people throughout the country and strengthens our democracy.

Yet the stakes have never been higher, and the Senate must make confirming lifetime judicial nominees an immediate priority for the remainder of the 117th Congress, particularly nominees from experientially and demographically diverse backgrounds. In July, many of our organizations wrote to Leader Schumer reiterating the urgency of confirming judges, and we write again now with more urgency as the end of this session nears. Right now, 25 lifetime nominees are awaiting full Senate action, 12 are awaiting committee votes, and at least five more will have hearings in time for the full Senate to act by the end of this Congress. The work to create a judiciary that will restore, protect, and advance our civil and human rights is multigenerational, but it requires our constant attention. No matter the outcome of the upcoming midterm elections, the Senate must commit to using every opportunity to confirm all judicial nominees who are and will be pending action by the full Senate during the session that begins on November 14.

We know that there are many pressing issues to address in the coming weeks and months. But we urge you to remember that a judiciary that values and upholds equal justice and the protection of civil rights for all is one of the critical ways we protect and strengthen our democracy. We ask that the confirmation of these experientially and demographically diverse judicial nominees who are committed to our civil and human rights be a top priority.

Thank you for your work on this issue. We urge you to continue making history by confirming all judicial nominees who are and will be pending action by the full Senate before the end of this Congress, and we



look forward to continuing to work with you to build a judiciary that lives up to its promise of equal justice under law.

Sincerely,

The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights

**Abortion Access Front** 

Advocates for Youth

**AFL-CIO** 

African American Ministers In Action

Alabama Employment Lawyers Association

Alliance for Justice

American Association of People with Disabilities

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)

American Federation of Teachers

American Humanist Association

American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC)

Americans for Financial Reform

Americans United for Separation of Church and State

Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF)

Asian Americans Advancing Justice – AAJC

Autistic Self Advocacy Network

Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law

Bend the Arc: Jewish Action

Black Women's Health Imperative

Brady

California Employment Lawyers Association

California Environmental Voters

CASA

Catholics for Choice

Center for American Progress

Center for Constitutional Rights

Center for Popular Democracy

The Center for Reproductive Rights

The Centre for Prophetic Activism

Clean Elections Texas

Clearinghouse on Women's Issues

Coalition on Human Needs

Colorado Employment Lawyers Association

Committee for a Fair Judiciary

Communications Workers of America (CWA)

**Community Catalyst** 

Conservation Alabama



Conservation Voters of Pennsylvania

Courts Matter Illinois

**Demand Justice** 

**Democracy Initiative** 

Demos

Disability Law Center

Disability Law Colorado

Disability Rights Florida

Disability Rights Maine

Disability Rights Maryland

Disability Rights North Carolina

Disability Rights Oregon

Disability Rights South Carolina

Disability Rights Vermont

Earthjustice

Eastern Pennsylvania Employment Lawyers Association

End Citizens United / Let America Vote Action Fund

**Endangered Species Coalition** 

**Equal Justice Society** 

**Equality California** 

Esperanza United (formerly Casa de Esperanza: National Latin@ Network)

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Faiths for Safe Water

Family Equality

Feminist Majority Foundation

FL National Organization for Women

Florida Center for Fiscal and Economic Policy

Florida Council of Churches

Florida Employment Lawyers Association

Florida Rising

Freedom From Religion Foundation

Friends of the Earth

GALEO & GALEO Impact Fund

Georgia Coalition for the People's Agenda

Georgia Employment Lawyers Association

Greater Orlando National Organization for Women

Greenpeace USA

High Plains Fair Housing Center

Hip Hop Caucus

Hispanic Federation

Houston Area Urban League

Houston Immigration Legal Services Collaborative

Human Rights Campaign



Illinois Employment Lawyers Association

Illinois National Organization for Women

In Our Own Voice: National Black Women's Reproductive Justice Agenda

Indivisible

Indivisible Miami

Indivisible Santa Fe

**Ipas** 

Japanese American Citizens League

**Just Solutions** 

Kansas City Employment Lawyers Association

KWH Law Center for Social Justice and Change

LatinoJustice PRLDEF

Lawyering Project

Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law

League of Conservation Voters

League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)

Liberate Abortion

Louisiana Coalition for Reproductive Freedom (LCRF)

Maine Conservation Voters

Maine Employment Lawyers Association

Maine Women's Lobby

MALDEF (Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund)

Massachusetts Employment Lawyers Association

Metropolitan Washington Employment Lawyers Association

Mi Familia Vota

Michigan League of Conservation Voters

Minnesota Employment Lawyers Association

The Montana Conservation Voters Education Fund

MoveOn

Muslim Advocates

Muslim Civic Coalition

NAACP Florida State Conference

NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. (LDF)

NARAL Pro-Choice America

National Action Network

National Association of Social Workers, CT Chapter

National Black Justice Coalition

National Center for Lesbian Rights

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence

National Congress of American Indians

National Consumer Law Center (on behalf of its low income clients)

National Consumers League

National Council of Jewish Women



National Council of Jewish Women Austin Section

National Council of Jewish Women Chicago North Shore Section

National Council of Jewish Women Cleveland Section

National Council of Jewish Women Greater Dallas Section

National Council of Jewish Women Greater Miami Section

National Council of Jewish Women Greater New Orleans Section

National Council of Jewish Women Greater Philadelphia Section

National Council of Jewish Women Louisville Section

National Council of Jewish Women Michigan Section

National Council of Jewish Women Minnesota Section

National Council of Jewish Women Saddleback Section

National Council of Jewish Women South Cook Section

National Council of Jewish Women St. Louis Section

National Disability Rights Network (NDRN)

National Domestic Workers Alliance

National Education Association

National Employment Law Project

National Employment Lawyers Association

National Health Law Program

National Homelessness Law Center

National Immigration Law Center

National Legal Aid & Defender Association

National LGBTQ Task Force Action Fund

National Organization for Women

National Organization for Women of Mississippi

National Partnership for Women & Families

National Police Accountability Project

National Urban League

National Women's Law Center

Native American Rights Fund

NC League of Conservation Voters

NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice

New Jersey League of Conservation Voters

New York Employment Lawyers Association

North Carolina Employment Lawyers Association

Ohio Council of Churches

Ohio Employment Lawyers Association

Ohio Environmental Council Action Fund

Oklahoma Disability Law Center, Inc

Oregon Employment Lawyers Association

People For the American Way

People's Parity Project

PFLAG National



Planned Parenthood Federation of America

PoliChic Texas

Population Connection Action Fund

Positive Women's Network-USA

Pride At Work

Pro-Choice North Carolina

**Pro-Choice Wyoming** 

Progress Florida

Progress Iowa

Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada

Protect Our Care

Public Advocacy for Kids (PAK)

R2H Action [Right to Health]

Rainbow PUSH Coalition

re:power

Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice

Reproaction

Reproductive Health Access Project

Reproductive Justice Resilience Project

Rights and Democracy

Rise Up America

SC Appleseed Legal Justice Center

Secular Coalition for America

**SEIU** 

Sierra Club

Silver State Equality

Southern Birth Justice Network

Southern Echo Inc.

Stand Up America

State Infrastructure Project

Take Back the Court Action Fund

Tennessee Employment Lawyers Association

Texas Employment Lawyers Association

UnidosUS

Union of Concerned Scientists

United State of Women

URGE: Unite for Reproductive & Gender Equity

Venice Resistance

**Vermont Conservation Voters** 

Virginia League of Conservation Voters

Voto Latino

**Washington Conservation Voters** 

Western Pennsylvania Employment Lawyers Association

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Wisconsin Conservation Voters Wisconsin Employment Lawyers Association Women Lawyers On Guard Action Network, Inc. The Workers Circle YWCA USA