

February 11, 2015

The Honorable Charles Grassley, Chairman Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy, Ranking Member Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Leahy:

The Human Rights Campaign, America's largest civil rights organization working to achieve lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) equality, urges you to support the nomination of Loretta E. Lynch to be Attorney General of the United States. Ms. Lynch is exceptionally well-qualified to serve as Attorney General.

Ms. Lynch is a dedicated public servant. She has spent much of her career working as a prosecutor, earning a reputation as a tough, non-partisan attorney, committed to the rule of law. During her notable career, Ms. Lynch has prosecuted financial fraudsters who have preyed on America's working class, officials who have violated the public's trust, and individuals and groups who have sought to inflict terror on our society.

The Department of Justice is the primary law enforcement agency of the United States. As a community that is particularly vulnerable to bias-motivated violence, the LGBT community supports the appointment of an Attorney General who is committed to combating this national problem. While acting as United States Attorney for the Eastern District, Ms. Lynch has demonstrated a clear understanding of the dynamics of hate crimes – that a hate crime is not only a crime against one person, but an attack against an entire community. Her vigilant prosecution of hate crimes assures that she will continue to lead a Department that takes hate-based violence seriously.

In her confirmation hearing, Ms. Lynch reiterated her promise to ensure that the Constitution remains her lodestar. We believe she will, as she has done throughout her two tenures as a United States Attorney, continue to protect the civil and human rights of all Americans and maintain an unwavering commitment to upholding the United States Constitution.

Ms. Lynch's nomination has broad support, including former FBI Director Louis Freeh and former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani. In addition, she was twice confirmed unanimously as United States Attorney.

The Human Rights Campaign urges you to vote to confirm Loretta E. Lynch as Attorney General.

Sincerely,

David Stacy

David Stacy Government Affairs Director