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Office of the Attorney General

November 13, 2022

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate 224 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck E. Grassley Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate 224 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley,

I am writing to support the confirmation of Judge Todd Edelman to the United States District Court for District of Columbia. Judge Edelman will make an excellent judge and I strongly encourage his rapid confirmation.

I have known Judge Edelman since law school, now spanning over thirty years of friendship and mutual support for each other's professional paths. That has afforded me a long and intensive opportunity to observe Judge Edelman in a variety of contexts, placing me in a strong position to advocate for his confirmation. Over the thirty years I have known Judge Edelman, I have seen him succeed on many different fronts—the practice of law, teaching, and judging. His background for serving as a federal district court judge is ideal.

First, Judge Edelman will bring the highest level of integrity to his work. To excel as a judge, it is crucial that one approach every case with an open mind, a fair disposition, and a commitment to doing justice in the individual case. Judge Edelman has demonstrated he will do just that and will advance the rule of law and promote trust in our judicial system through his actions.

Second, Judge Edelman brings a passion for justice, empathy for individuals, and emotional intelligence to his work. For many facing their day in court, whether as plaintiffs or defendants in civil cases, criminal defendants, victims, or witnesses, the experience is often a traumatic and difficult one. Judge Edelman's demeanor and life experience will enable him to make this experience less traumatic and less difficult and serve to elicit the critical evidence to advance justice while treating everyone fairly and sensitively.

Third, Judge Edelman is extremely sharp and well-versed in both civil and criminal law matters as well as a track record as a jurist that has built respect from many corners. For a judge to be successful, it is important to be able to quickly understand and learn the relevant legal concepts, make decisions quickly and effectively, and present their conclusions in well-reasoned opinions. Judge Edelman has done just that during his time on the bench. Moreover, his record as a teacher—where one is required to delve into and explain concepts—positions him effectively for this position. Over his career, Judge Edelman has taught at Georgetown and Harvard on a variety of subjects, including criminal law and constitutional law, earning strong reviews.

In short, Judge Edelman is the whole package—as a person and as a jurist. Some confirmed to the federal bench face a steep learning curve in one area or another. With Judge Edelman, he is extremely well positioned on day one to take on the responsibility of serving as a federal judge with integrity, emotional intelligence, and a sharp analytical mind. Our nation will be better for his service. I strongly support his confirmation.

Sincerely,

Philip J. Weiser Attorney General

State of Colorado