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April 14, 2010

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Nomination of J. Michelle Childs to the
United States District Court for the District of South Carolina

Dear Chairman Leahy:

Along with Congressman Clyburn and Senator Graham, I recommended J. Michelle Childs for appointment to a federal judgeship, and I now write to support the President's nomination of Judge Childs to the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina. Judge Childs currently serves on the South Carolina Court of General Sessions and Common Pleas and is known throughout our state for her fairness, integrity, and judicial temperament. During four years on the bench, she has served as Chief Administrative Judge for General Sessions Court and now serves as Chief Administrative Judge of the Business Court, handling business and corporate disputes with case management practices similar to those in the federal courts.

Prior to her election to the Circuit Court, she was appointed to serve as a Commissioner on the South Carolina Workers' Compensation Commission and as Deputy Director for the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation's Division of Labor. Through her service in these capacities, she developed substantial skills in appellate review. While at the Division of Labor, she handled appeals from regulatory decisions of lower management; and as a Workers' Compensation Commissioner, she served on the Full Commission, where she reviewed appeals from individual Commissioner's orders. As a trial judge, she has considered appeals from administrative agencies, municipal court and magistrate's court. She has also served as an Acting Justice for the South Carolina Supreme Court.

Prior to public service, Judge Childs practiced law at Nexsen Pruet, LLC, where she concentrated on labor and employment law and general litigation. Judge Childs informs me that she was the first African-American female to become a partner in a major law firm in South Carolina, and if confirmed, will be the third female and the third African-American to serve as a United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina.

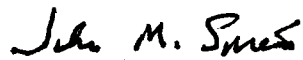
Judge Childs has been active in local, state and national bar organizations, as well as community and civic organizations. She serves in the House of Delegates for both the American Bar Association and the South Carolina Bar Association. She has received various awards for her

leadership and service. The American Bar Association has reviewed her background and found her "unanimously well qualified" to serve as a United States District Judge.

Judge Childs received her B.S. degree in Management from the University of South Florida and M.A. degree in Personnel and Employment Relations from the University of South Carolina's Moore School of Business. She received her J.D. from the University of South Carolina School of Law.

Judge Childs is eminently qualified, and I urge your Committee to act swiftly and favorably to confirm her as a United States District Judge.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John M. Spratt, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

John M. Spratt, Jr.
Member of Congress

JMSj/tm