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January 6, 2017

Senator Dianne Feinstein Ranking Member Senate Judiciary Committee SH-331 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510⁻⁻

Dear Senator Feinstein:

I am writing to you in support of Senator Jeff Sessions for the position of Attorney General. Though Jeff and I have usually been on opposite sides of the political divide, I have known him for approximately 40 years, and while we have had our policy differences, I know his instincts are fundamentally humane and just. Indicative of Jeff's basic instincts, he participated in last year's 50th anniversary of the Selma to Montgomery March. In fact, I marched next to him over the Selma bridge during that commemoration. Similarly, he led the effort to desegregate the Mobile Lions Club in the mid-1980s, well before he had any political aspirations. As I say, we don't always agree, but he is a decent human being who acts on his conscience.

While we have been together on a number of occasions, I doubt you would recall, given how many people you meet constantly. In way of background, I served on the DNC for thirteen years, as well as serving as the Democratic Party's Vice-Chair in Alabama. In fact, I recall very vividly your kind hospitality when I was serving on the 1984 site selection committee for the Democratic Convention. You were most gracious in hosting us at your house. You were particularly kind to my then thirteen year old daughter. Most recently, in terms of my political activity, I worked on the Clinton campaign, and I was Hillary's largest. Alabama fundraiser. In other words, I am not a Democrat in name only.

I truly hope our Party will not make this vote on party lines, but instead vote on the man. If so, I wanted you to be aware of what those who know him best think, even those on our side of the political _divide.

I very much appreciate your consideration of my views.

With continued good wishes, I remain

Sincerely.

Senator Patrick J. Leahy Senator Richard J. Durbin Senator Sheldon Whitehouse Senator Amy Klobuchar

cc:

Senator Al Franken Senator Christopher A. Coons Senator Richard Blumenthal Senator Mazie K. Hirono