

Matthew V. Bartle
10817 Wildflower Drive
Lee's Summit, MO 64086

October 16, 2014

Sen. Harry Reid
522 Hart Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Judicial Nominee Stephen Bough

Dear Senator Reid,

I write to support the nomination of Stephen Bough to the United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri.

I have known Steve Bough for at least 10 years and first met him when I was serving in the Missouri legislature. I spent eight years serving in the Missouri Senate, where I was Chairman of the Missouri Senate Judiciary Committee, and four years in the Missouri House. I am a Republican.

Although we were leaders in different parties, we quickly became friends. I thought Steve was honest and candid. He was willing to listen, but also able to understand, which I believe sets him apart. Advancing the cause of my district in the state legislature required me to work with Democrats who lead the county and several of the cities in my district. My friendship with Steve opened doors to these elected officials and facilitated vital communication. I considered him a key pragmatic player who wanted to get things done.

I urge the Senate to confirm Steve Bough's nomination. I think he would be an excellent federal judge.

Sincerely,



Matthew V. Bartle