

May 28, 2018

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

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein,
Ranking Member Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein:

We are a bipartisan group of lawyers who have had the privilege of serving with Ryan Nelson in a nonprofit context on legal issues of mutual professional and intellectual interest. Many of us became first acquainted with Ryan in 2016 when he joined the governing council for the American Bar Association's Section on Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice. The ABA has a policy that ABA Sections do not take official positions on nominations to the federal judiciary. Accordingly, we write in our personal capacities to express our support for Ryan's nomination to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

We have worked with Ryan in a context that brings together lawyers accomplished in administrative law from government, private practice, and academia of all ideological stripes. Our work organizes numerous conferences and events throughout the year as well as publishes and promotes important research on administrative law and regulatory practice. In our interactions, Ryan has been hard-working, intelligent, and generous in his service to the Section and his mentorship of younger lawyers.

Moreover, Ryan's diverse legal background—as general counsel of an Idaho-based company, a former Senate Judiciary Committee staffer, a former deputy general counsel at the Office of Management and Budget, and a former deputy assistant attorney general in the Justice Department's Environment and Natural Resources Division—has brought great value to our efforts and discussions. Ryan can always be counted on to contribute to any discussion with thoughtful and well-reasoned comments. His diverse legal background and good temperament should similarly serve him well on the Ninth Circuit.

The undersigned disagree on a number of issues, but we are united in urging the Judiciary Committee and the United States Senate to confirm Ryan Nelson to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Ryan has the right temperament to serve as an Article III Judge, and his respect for the rule of law will make him an excellent addition to the Ninth Circuit.

Sincerely,

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