

March 7, 2017

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Chairman
Senate Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Cc: Members of the United States Senate

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein Ranking Member Senate Committee on the Judiciary 152 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Re: Bend the Arc Jewish Action Opposes the Confirmation of Judge Neil Gorsuch to the Supreme Court

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein:

As the Director of Bend the Arc Jewish Action, I write to share our opposition to the confirmation of Judge Neil M. Gorsuch to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Bend the Arc Jewish Action is the largest national Jewish social justice organization focused exclusively on domestic policy, bringing together Jews from across the country to advocate and organize for a more just and equal society. The Supreme Court hears cases on the full range of issues of concern to Bend the Arc and the American Jewish community more broadly. Additionally, a Supreme Court capable of serving as a check on the executive branch and committed to protecting the Constitutional rights and freedoms of all Americans has never been more crucial. As such, the decision of who is confirmed to a lifetime appointment on the Court has far-reaching implications.

Judge Gorsuch's decade-long record on the federal bench, as well as his writings, speeches, and activities throughout his career are cause for much concern. His troubling history of deference to executive power and to corporations indicates that he will not be the independent jurist our country and its people need. Further, Judge Gorsuch has demonstrated hostility toward: victims of police brutality, women's right to access reproductive health care, and those who turn to the courts to defend LGBTQ rights. His history of anti-worker rulings are also profoundly troubling and raise serious questions about his ability to rule fairly on our highest Court.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely

Rabbi Jason Kimelman-Block

Ma Kirkushir

Director, Bend the Arc Jewish Action