

STATE OF GEORGIA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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Nathan Deal
GOVERNOR

October 23, 2017

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

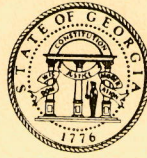
The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein:

It is my pleasure to write in support of Judge Elizabeth (Lisa) L. Branch's nomination to be a United States Circuit Judge of the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals. Ms. Branch has served on the Court of Appeals of the State of Georgia since 2012 when I, impressed by her extensive knowledge and legal acumen, appointed her as judge of that court.

Judge Branch began her very distinguished legal career in 1994 as a judicial clerk for the Honorable J. Owen Forrester in the United States District Court of the Northern District of Georgia. Following several years as an associate and later a partner with a commercial litigation firm in Atlanta, she served as a senior official in the administration of President George W. Bush. During her time with the Bush Administration, she first served as Associate General Counsel for Rules and Legislation for the United States Department of Homeland Security and later as Counselor to the Administrator in the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs at the U.S. Office of Management and Budget.

In addition to her appointment to the Georgia Court of Appeals, I also had the pleasure of appointing Judge Branch to serve on the Georgia Commission on



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Child Support. Because of Judge Branch's legal expertise and experience she is a sought after resource and member of several professional groups. She serves on the board of visitors for her alma mater, Emory University School of Law; is a Master in the Lamar American Inn of Court and the Bleckley American Inn of Court; is a member of the board of advisors of the Atlanta Lawyers Chapter for the Federalist Society; and is a former co-chair of the Homeland Security and National Defense Committee of the Section of Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice of the American Bar Association.

Judge Branch has proven to be an effective leader in the private sector, in our U.S. and state governments, and from the bench. She has had a profound impact on the administration of justice in our state. Thank you for your consideration of my letter in support of Judge Elizabeth (Lisa) L. Branch.

Sincerely,

Nathan Deal

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