



State of Connecticut
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

REPRESENTATIVE LILE R. GIBBONS
ONE HUNDRED FIFTIETH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT
ASSISTANT HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

27 SUNSET ROAD
OLD GREENWICH, CONNECTICUT 06870
TELEPHONE:
HOME: (203) 637-0784
CAPITOL: (860) 240-8700
TOLL FREE: 1-800-842-1423
E-MAIL: Lile.Gibbons@housegop.ct.gov

RANKING MEMBER
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

MEMBER
FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING COMMITTEE
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

July 5, 2011

Senator Patrick J. Leahy, Chairman Senate Judiciary
437 Russell Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy:

I am writing to offer my enthusiastic support to the nomination of Alaska Supreme Court Justice Morgan Christen to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in Alaska.

I have known Justice Christen for over seven years in our shared capacity as directors on the Rasmuson Foundation located in Anchorage, Alaska. When Justice Christen speaks in our foundation meetings, we directors listen as her comments are always concise, well-reasoned and thoughtful. She knows and understands the legal landscape and its ramifications in ordinary situations dealing with people, places and events. In short, Justice Christen is an exceptional colleague who is not only amiable and articulate but extremely helpful in moving the dialogue to a rational and cogent conclusion. It is an honor to have her serve on my family's foundation; I would serve with her in any capacity on any board!

As noted in Justice Christen's judicial record, she distinguished herself first in the private sector as an attorney and since 2001 as a judge in the Superior court, and most recently as a Justice in Alaska's Supreme Court. She was appointed to these judgeships by Democrat and Republican Governors, evidence of her political non-partisanship and her ability to be objective and unbiased in her decision making.

Justice Christen has high energy, high integrity, and high standards in both her personal and her professional life. She has and continues to serve on the boards of numerous non-profits and generally ends up chairing the committees on which she serves. Without a doubt, if her nomination were confirmed, Justice Christen would be an asset to the Ninth Circuit Court and will readily be a distinguished judge on this court.

I respectfully urge you to act in favor of Justice Morgan Christen's nomination to fill a vacancy on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Thank you for your attention on this matter.

Sincerely,

Lile Rasmuson Gibbons