

May 23, 2025

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

The Honorable Dick Durbin
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Nomination of Joshua Divine to the United States District Court for the Eastern and Western Districts of Missouri

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

I write to support the nomination of Joshua Divine to the United States District Court for the Eastern and Western Districts of Missouri. I got to know Josh through his work as the Solicitor General of Missouri. In that role, Josh defended Missouri's SB 49, the Save Adolescents from Experimentation Act (SAFE) Act. The SAFE Act prohibits health care providers from performing gender transition surgeries on minors. My participation with the SAFE Act was testifying in the case of *Noe v. Parson* regarding the facts and circumstances surrounding my medical transition between the ages of 12 to 16, my decision to detransition at the age of 17, and the lifelong medical questions and complications I now face as a result. In my capacity as a victim of medical transition, I had the opportunity to work directly with Josh.

Mine is not an easy story to tell, but it is a necessary one in the hope that I can play a part in stopping these horrific practices. Josh was kind, considerate, and compassionate throughout the process. It is never easy for me to talk about the trauma I endured at the hands of medical professionals who were supposed to protect me, not to mention the sensitivity of discussing my lingering physical complications and regrets. But Josh made sure I was supported and cared for throughout the process. His efforts in support of the SAFE act showed that he was not only an excellent legal advocate, but also a trusted legal counselor in the best sense of the phrase.

Given my opportunities to interact with him, I have no doubt he has the temperament and intelligence to be a wonderful federal judge. I know he will treat

every person in his courtroom with dignity and respect, and I urge the committee to act quickly to confirm him.

Respectfully,

Chloe Cole