

May 5, 2026

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

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

Re: Letter of Support for the Nomination of Benjamin Flowers to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

We write as current and former state solicitors general to express our strong support for the nomination of Benjamin Flowers to the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. While we are a bipartisan group with varying political and judicial views, we all agree that Ben is exceptionally qualified and will serve admirably on the federal bench.

Chief appellate advocates for our States regularly oversee complex litigation affecting citizens across our States. Oftentimes, States will join forces in these efforts and thus, we worked closely with Ben on many important matters. Ben displayed incredible leadership and extraordinary legal skills in litigating novel and complex issues of great national significance.

Ben has particularly shined at the United States Supreme Court, where he has already appeared three times. For example, 26 states challenged the Biden administration's COVID-19 vaccine mandate for businesses with 100 or more employees in *National Federation of Independent Business v. Department of Labor*. Ben successfully argued before the Court that the federal government lacked the authority to issue the mandate. Ben again argued before the Supreme Court in *Shoop v. Twyford*, where he persuaded the Court to reverse a Sixth Circuit's order requiring

Ohio to transport a convicted murderer for medical testing that the prisoner had not shown would be admissible.

But his success has certainly not been limited to the U.S Supreme Court. As Ohio Solicitor General, Ben argued many times in the Ohio Supreme Court and the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, including three successful *en banc* arguments. These cases not only showcased Ben's impressive sharp wit at oral argument, but his legal briefs demonstrated Ben's remarkable writing skills (which have earned him multiple writing honors). And in each case, Ben has combined his superior legal acumen with a steadfast commitment to the rule of law.

All that's not even to mention his impressive background *before* becoming Solicitor General: high honors at the University of Chicago, stints at two respected firms, and clerkships with Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia and Judge Sandra Ikuta. No doubt each of these experiences have only further equipped Ben to think, write, and decide like a learned judge.

Ben also exhibits the temperament necessary to serve as a Circuit Judge. We are certain that he will bring intellectual honesty to each case; he will carefully and objectively consider all sides with an open mind. As reflected by his work in coordinating broad multistate coalitions, Ben will treat colleagues and counsel respectfully and with utmost professionalism. And Ben's integrity is beyond reproach.

As Ben's former colleagues, we are confident that he possesses the qualities to serve with distinction as a Circuit Judge. We strongly urge the Senate to confirm Ben without delay.

Sincerely,

Melissa Holyoak (Former Solicitor General of Utah, 2020-2024)

J. Benjamin Aguiñaga (Solicitor General of Louisiana, 2024-present)

Philip Axt (Solicitor General of North Dakota, 2023-present)

Cody S. Barnett (Solicitor General of Nebraska, 2025-present)

James Barta (Solicitor General of Indiana, 2023-present)

A. Barrett Bowdre (Solicitor General of Alabama, 2025-present)

James A. Campbell (Former Solicitor General of Nebraska, 2020-2023)

Christian Corrigan (Solicitor General of Montana, 2022-present)

David Dewhirst (Solicitor General of Florida, 2026-present; Former Solicitor General of Montana, 2021-2022)
Andrew Ferguson (Former Solicitor General of Virginia, 2022-2024)
Thomas M. Fisher (Former Solicitor General of Indiana, 2005-2023)
Elliot Gaiser (Former Solicitor General of Ohio, 2023-2025)
Anthony J. Galdieri (Solicitor General of New Hampshire, 2021-present)
Garry Gaskins (Solicitor General of Oklahoma, 2023-present)
Tyler Green (Former Solicitor General of Utah, 2015-2020)
Eric Hamilton (Former Solicitor General of Nebraska, 2023-2025)
Matt Kuhn (Solicitor General of Kentucky, 2021-present)
Jenna Lorence (Solicitor General of Alaska, 2025-present)
Mithun Mansinghani (Former Solicitor General of Oklahoma, 2017-2022)
Liz Murrill (Former Solicitor General of Louisiana, 2016-2023; Louisiana Attorney General, 2024-present)
Aaron L. Nielson (Former Solicitor General of Texas, 2023-2025)
Ryan Park (Former Solicitor General of North Carolina, 2020-2025)
Autumn Hamit Patterson (Solicitor General of Arkansas, 2025-present)
Stephen J. Petrany (Former Solicitor General of Georgia, 2021-2025)
Stanford Purser (Solicitor General of Utah, 2024-present)
J. Matthew Rice (Solicitor General of Tennessee, 2024-present)
Beau Roysden (Former Solicitor General of Arizona, 2020-2022)
D. John Sauer (Former Solicitor General of Missouri, 2017-2023)
Lindsay See (Former Solicitor General of West Virginia, 2018-2024)
O.H. Skinner (Former Solicitor General of Arizona, 2019-2020)
Mathura Sridharan (Solicitor General of Ohio, 2025-present)
Scott G. Stewart (Solicitor General of Mississippi, 2021-present)
Judd Stone (Former Solicitor General of Texas, 2021-2023)
John Henry Thompson (Solicitor General of Georgia, 2026-present)
Misha Tseytlin (Former Solicitor General of Wisconsin, 2015-2018)
Eric Wessan (Solicitor General of Iowa, 2023-present)
Michael Williams (Solicitor General of West Virginia, 2024-present)
Frederick Yarger (Former Solicitor General of Colorado, 2015-2018)
Michael Zarian (Solicitor General of Idaho, 2026-present)

All titles are listed for identification only. Signatories write in their personal capacity.