

April 3, 2018

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

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

Re: Nomination of Mark J. Bennett to be a United States
Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals

Dear Senators:

We, the undersigned, write in support of President Trump's nomination of Mark J. Bennett for appointment to the United States Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. We have all served as Attorneys General of the State of Hawaii. Through our service to the State of Hawaii, and through our individual litigation practices, we have known and interacted with Mr. Bennett, and have witnessed his many contributions to the State of Hawaii and the Hawaii legal community as Attorney General and as a legal practitioner. Our experiences have provided us with substantial insight into Mr. Bennett's personal and professional characteristics.

Mr. Bennett has a breadth of experience and training that is very substantial and will serve him well as a Circuit Court judge. He has served as an Assistant United States Attorney in the District of Columbia and the District of Hawaii, an Attorney General for the State of Hawaii and a private practitioner at two of the most prominent law firms in Hawaii. He thus has broad experience in both criminal and civil litigation and law. He served with distinction as Attorney General for the State of Hawaii for eight years. During his service to the State he appeared twice before the United States Supreme Court on matters of importance for the State, involving constitutional principles as applied to Native Hawaiians and the institutions of the State. He has also had numerous other appellate arguments in both state and federal courts. He has served many years on the Board of Directors of the American Judicature Society, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the judiciary. He has been recognized by his peers and was elected as a Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers.

Mr. Bennett has an exceptional judicial temperament and an outstanding legal mind. These traits are coupled with an innate sense of fairness and justice. Mr. Bennett's judicial demeanor, temperament and philosophy have earned him a well deserved reputation for even-handed and fair treatment of others, both opposing counsel and lay people. He is a very hard

worker and will bring both his legal talent and his diligence to the service of the United States Court of Appeals.

We heartily, and proudly, join United States Senators Brian Schatz and Mazie Hirono in urging the Committee to support Mr. Bennett's appointment to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Very truly yours,

FORMER AND CURRENT ATTORNEYS GENERAL OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

/s/ RONALD Y. AMEMIYA
/s/ EARL I. ANZAI
/s/ TANY HONG
/s/ MICHAEL A. LILLY
/s/ DAVID M. LOUIE
/s/ ROBERT A. MARKS
/s/ WARREN PRICE III
/s/ RUSSELL A. SUZUKI
/s/ CORINNE K.A. WATANABE