

May 12, 2025

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Letter of support by current and former state solicitors general for the nomination of T. Elliot Gaiser as Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Counsel

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

We write to urge the confirmation of Elliot Gaiser as Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Counsel.

Since 2023, Elliot has ably discharged his duties as Solicitor General of Ohio. His work establishes his fitness to serve in the Office of Legal Counsel. We know this because we all served as state solicitors general, and all of us have partnered with Elliot on important matters. We have seen firsthand his impressive intellect, clear thinking, disciplined legal analysis, and commitment to the United States Constitution.

Elliot's tenure as Ohio Solicitor General has honed his inherent strengths, further preparing him to serve in the Office of Legal Counsel. State solicitors general must often quickly and accurately resolve and advise on complex legal matters. In *OPAWL v. Yost*, for example, Elliot successfully moved for a stay of district court decision enjoining the enforcement of an Ohio law regulating the use of foreign contributions and expenditures in Ohio elections. And he made that filing just a day after the district court entered its injunction. What is more, as Solicitor General, Elliot oversaw the department of the Attorney General's office that provides opinions to prosecutors and state agencies on issues of state law. In that capacity, he often provided counsel on arcane matters of state law. He thus supervised what amounts to a state-level Office of Legal Counsel. And he did so well. Experiences like these demonstrate Elliot's ability to provide the President with high-quality counsel regarding important issues, and that he will do so on the compressed timelines that the Office of Legal Counsel demands.

Even before joining the Ohio Attorney General’s Office, Elliot distinguished himself as an outstanding thinker. His time working for three distinguished judges—Justice Samuel Alito, Judge Neomi Rao, and Judge Edith Jones—equips him well to tackle some of our nation’s most challenging constitutional issues. Federal courts started citing his scholarship on administrative law remedies just a few short months after he published it. And his work in private practice at three renowned firms showed Elliot to be—in the words of Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost—a “master craftsman of ironclad legal arguments rooted in originalist principles and constitutional restraint.”

Above all else, Elliot is a good man. He’s the son of a small-business owner, a family man, and a devoted American, as honest as the day is long. Elliot’s dedication to the legal craft reflects the importance he places on serving his fellow citizens. He is, in short, exactly the kind of person that Americans should be delighted to have in the Executive Branch—particularly to lead the office “responsible for ensuring that the executive branch charged with executing the law is itself bound by the law.”

Many leading lights of the legal field have led the Office of Legal Counsel; Chief Justice Rehnquist and Justice Scalia, for example, are among them. Elliot will be a worthy successor to their legacy. Confirm him.

Sincerely,

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

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

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

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

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

David Dewhirst (Solicitor General of Montana, 2021-2022)

Andrew Ferguson (Solicitor General of Virginia, 2022-2024)

Thomas M. Fischer (Solicitor General of Indiana, 2005-2023)

Benjamin M. Flowers (Solicitor General of Ohio, 2019-2023)

Garry Gaskins (Solicitor General of Oklahoma, 2023-present)

Tyler Green (Solicitor General of Utah, 2015-2020)

Eric J. Hamilton (Solicitor General of Nebraska, 2023-2025)

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

Matthew F. Kuhn (Solicitor General of Kentucky, 2021-present)

Edmund LaCour (Solicitor General of Alabama, 2019-present)

Mithun Mansinghani (Solicitor General of Oklahoma, 2017-2022)

Liz Murrill (Solicitor General of Louisiana, 2016-2023)

Aaron L. Nielson (Solicitor General of Texas, 2023-present)

Autumn Hamit Patterson (Solicitor General of Arkansas, 2025-present)

Stephen Petrany (Solicitor General of Georgia, 2021-present)

Anthony Powell (Solicitor General of Kansas, 2023-present)

Stanford Purser (Solicitor General of Utah, 2024-present)

J. Matthew Rice (Solicitor General of Tennessee, 2024-present)

Brunn (Beau) Roysden (Solicitor General of Arizona, 2020-2022)

O.H. Skinner (Solicitor General of Arizona, 2019-2020)

Scott G. Stewart (Solicitor General of Mississippi, 2021-present)

Judd Stone (Solicitor General of Texas, 2021-2023)

Eric H. Wessan (Solicitor General of Iowa, 2023-present)

Michael R. Williams (Solicitor General of West Virginia, 2024-present)