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November 13, 2026

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley, Chairman
The Honorable Richard J. Durbin, Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Nomination of Eric Hamilton to the United States District Court for Nebraska

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

We are current and former senior staff from the offices of State Attorneys General, and we write to support the nomination of Eric Hamilton to the United States District Court for the District of Nebraska. We have served as solicitors general, deputy attorneys general, chiefs of staff, and division heads. Many of us worked with Eric while he was Nebraska's Solicitor General and, before that, an Assistant Solicitor General in Texas.

We have drafted briefs with him, mooted arguments with him, and leaned on his judgment when the stakes were highest. We sign in our personal capacities, and our titles are listed for identification only. Each of us is confident that Eric will be an excellent federal judge.

Eric's résumé is the kind the Committee expects to see for a seat on the federal bench. After graduating from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, he earned his law degree at Stanford Law School, where he served on the Stanford Law Review, and then clerked for Judge Thomas M. Hardiman on the Third Circuit. He

practiced in Washington, D.C., and served as Associate Counsel to the President in the Office of White House Counsel. He then turned to state service, first in the Texas Attorney General's Office and then, beginning in 2023, as Nebraska's Solicitor General. There he was the State's chief civil appellate lawyer, responsible for its appeals in the Supreme Court of the United States, the Eighth Circuit, and the Nebraska appellate courts.

Today he leads the Federal Programs Branch of the Justice Department's Civil Division, which defends federal statutes, regulations, and executive action in trial courts across the country. Few nominees come to a district court with such a complete view of how cases are litigated, from the first motion to the last appeal.

But credentials tell only part of the story. Eric is among the most talented lawyers any of us has worked with. He has a careful eye for both facts and law—and is determined to get both right. His writing is clear and economical, and it deals squarely with the authority that cuts the other way. When a coalition of States needed someone to find the weak point in an argument, or to turn a sprawling draft into a brief a busy judge would read cover to cover, Eric was the lawyer we called. He brings the same rigor to small questions as to large ones. District judges decide hundreds of motions that never make the news, and every one of them matters to the parties. Eric will give each the same care.

Eric has spent most of his career as an advocate for the public. That is what good government lawyers do. Yet we have watched how he does it, and his approach is the best evidence of the kind of judge he will be. Eric gives his clients candid advice about what the law requires, even when the answer is unwelcome. He concedes what must be conceded. He treats opposing counsel with respect and assumes good faith until given reason not to. And he has never confused a client's preferences with the law's commands. A judge must apply the law as written to the facts as found, whoever the parties are and whoever wins. Eric understands the difference

between the advocate's role and the judge's, and we have no doubt he will honor it.

Fairness on the bench also depends on temperament, and here Eric is exceptional. He is calm under pressure and unfailingly courteous. Multistate litigation runs on tight deadlines and many cooks, and tempers can fray. Eric is the type of colleague who lowers the temperature. He listens before he speaks, gives credit freely, and takes the time to teach younger lawyers—many of whom now are either still in Nebraska or have flourishing careers elsewhere. Litigants in Omaha and Lincoln will find a judge who treats them with dignity, whether they arrive with a large firm behind them or on their own.

Eric came home to Nebraska to serve its people once, and he is ready to do so again. He has the intellect, the integrity, and the even temperament that the District of Nebraska deserves.

We respectfully urge the Committee to report Eric Hamilton's nomination favorably to the full Senate.

Respectfully,

Eric H. Wessan
Iowa Solicitor General

Christian B. Corrigan
Montana Solicitor General

J. Benjamin Aguinaga
Louisiana Solicitor General

David M.S. Dewhirst
Florida Solicitor General
Former Montana Solicitor General

Cody Barnett
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Paul S. Swedlund
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Garry M. Gaskins, II
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James A. Campbell
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Former Arizona Solicitor General

Andrew Ferguson
Former Virginia Solicitor General

D. John Sauer
Former Missouri Solicitor General

Mithun Mansinghani
Former Oklahoma Solicitor General

Thomas M. Fisher
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J. Matthew Rice
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Jenna Lorence
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William Selph
Former Montana Chief of
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Abishek Kambli
Former Kansas Deputy
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