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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-1101

April 6, 2018

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
135 Hart Senate 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

Dear Majority Leader McConnell, Minority Leader Schumer, Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein:

I write in strongest support of the nomination of Mark Jeremy Bennett of Hawai'i for United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

A 1979 graduate of Cornell Law School, Magna Cum Laude, Mr. Bennett has a distinguished civil and criminal law career including service as an Assistant United States Attorney, District of Columbia and District of Hawai'i, and Attorney General, State of Hawai'i. With extensive trial and appellate law experience, Mr. Bennett successfully argued *Hawaii v. Office of Hawaiian Affairs*, 556 U.S. 163 (2009) and *Lingle v. Chevron*, 544 U.S. 528 (2005) before the United States Supreme Court.

While in private practice specializing in complex civil and appellate law, Mr. Bennett served as a *Pro Bono* Special Deputy Prosecuting Attorney and Special Deputy Attorney General, State of Hawai'i. A Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers, Mr. Bennett possesses exemplary qualifications for service on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Considered a legal scholar by

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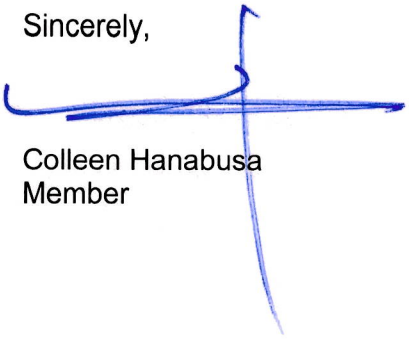
STEERING AND POLICY
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his peers, Mr. Bennett has taught criminal law to students in Hawai'i as an Adjunct Professor of Law, William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawai'i.

During my career in law and politics in the State of Hawai'i, including during my time as Senate President in the Hawai'i State Legislature, I have witnessed no finer trial attorney than Mr. Bennett. He is highly respected and admired by his colleagues and he possesses the judicial temperament to treat all litigants courteously with respect and compassion, while remaining open-minded, free of bias and committed to equal justice.

I personally commend Mr. Bennett to you for confirmation as I know he will serve with great distinction on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Sincerely,



Colleen Hanabusa
Member