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: <u>Letter of Support for the Nomination of Eddie LaCour to be United</u> <u>States District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama</u>

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 Eddie LaCour to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama. From serving as the top appellate lawyer for our States, we have unique insight into what it takes to be a federal judge. We all believe that Eddie's intellect, legal experiences, and commitment to the rule of law qualify him to serve his country as a United States District Judge.

State solicitors general regularly lead complex litigation that affects people across the United States. Success as a state solicitor general requires a deep appreciation for the rule of law and the ability to answer difficult legal questions in a fast-paced environment. Eddie has served as Alabama's Solicitor General since May 2019. During those six plus years, Eddie has excelled by every metric.

As Alabama's Solicitor General, Eddie has argued three times in the Supreme Court of the United States. He has also argued in federal district courts across Alabama, the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, and the Alabama Supreme Court. To give one example of Eddie's extensive litigation experience, Eddie led the legal defense of Alabama's law protecting children from experimental medical treatments in the *Boe v. Marshall* litigation. During a two-day evidentiary hearing in that case, Eddie cross-examined a significant expert witness and gave the State's closing argument. He then successfully argued the resulting appeal before the Eleventh Circuit. The third-party discovery that Eddie conducted in the *Boe* litigation figured prominently

in an amicus brief he filed in the recent *United States v. Skrmetti* case. The *Skrmetti* majority and Justice Thomas's separate opinion both cited Eddie's brief.

In addition to being a first-rate lawyer, Eddie has the temperament necessary to serve on the federal bench. Eddie is respectful of opposing viewpoints, levelheaded, thoughtful, and principled. We are confident that every litigant who comes before Eddie will see a judge doing his level best to faithfully apply the law to the facts no matter the circumstances.

As Eddie's professional peers who have followed his work as Alabama's Solicitor General, we have no reservations in supporting his nomination to serve as a District Judge.

Sincerely,

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

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

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

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

David Dewhirst (Solicitor General of Montana, 2020-2021)

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

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

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

T. Elliot Gaiser (Solicitor General of Ohio, 2023-2025)

Kevin Gallagher (Solicitor General of Virginia, 2025-present)

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

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

Kyle Hawkins (Solicitor General of Texas, 2018-2021)

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

Elbert Lin (Solicitor General of West Virginia, 2013-2017)

Scott A. Keller (Solicitor General of Texas, 2015-2018)

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

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

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)

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

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

D. John Sauer (Solicitor General of Missouri, 2017-2023)

O.H. Skinner (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 (Solicitor General of Texas, 2021-2023)

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

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