HENRY DARGAN MCMASTER
GOVERNOR

November 13, 2026

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

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Nomination of Wm. Grayson Lambert, Esquire to the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

It is my privilege to recommend to you, in the strongest possible terms, William Grayson Lambert, whom the President has nominated to serve as United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina.

I have known Grayson and his family for many years, but he first joined my staff in 2021 at the recommendation and insistence of my then-Chief Legal Counsel, Thomas A. Limehouse, Jr., who had served as co-counsel with Grayson in contentious litigation and was impressed by his intellect and integrity. Grayson soon agreed to leave private practice and enter public service, first as Senior Legal Counsel before coming Chief Deputy Legal Counsel and Senior Litigation Counsel in 2023 and my Chief Legal Counsel in 2025.

Before that, he graduated with honors from the University of Virginia, where he was a Jefferson Scholar, and obtained his J.D., *magna cum laude*, from Duke University School of Law, where he was a Mordecai Scholar and Executive Editor of the *Duke Law Journal*. He clerked for Judge Dennis W. Shedd of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit and practiced for eight years with two highly regarded law firms, where he rose to partner.

Over the course of the past five years, Grayson has served as one of my closest legal advisors. In my office, he has handled significant and time-sensitive legal matters, including emergency litigation and constitutional questions of first impression concerning the separation of powers and the structure of our state government. He has argued many times before the Supreme Court of South Carolina and has represented me and my office in the Fourth Circuit and the Supreme Court of the United States. His preparation is superb, his writing is clear and precise, and his judgment is sound. Most importantly, his advice is always grounded in the law.

I have spent more than four decades in and around our courts, as a practicing lawyer, as United States Attorney for the District of South Carolina, as Attorney General of South Carolina, and now as Governor. I understand and appreciate what the District Court demands of its Judges: a command of the law, careful attention to the record, the discipline to manage a heavy docket, and the patience and courtesy to treat every lawyer and litigant with respect. Grayson has every one of those qualities. He is a gracious person and lawyer who is well regarded not only by his co-counsel but also by his opposing counsel.

To be sure, a Governor's lawyer must be an advocate. A judge, however, must be a neutral arbiter. I have complete confidence that Grayson recognizes and respects the difference, and his temperament and judgment are well suited to the judicial role. If he is confirmed, I have no doubt that he would be fair, impartial, and civil to any party who may appear before him and that he would be, above all else, faithful to the Constitution and the laws of the United States.

I am proud to recommend Grayson Lambert for this important position, and I respectfully urge the Committee to report his nomination to the Senate for confirmation. Thank you for your consideration and for your continued service to the United States of America.

Yours very truly,

Henry Dargan McMaster

HDM/ll

cc: The Honorable Tim Scott
The Honorable Darline Graham