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January 27, 2015

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

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
152 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Leahy:

I write to respectfully encourage your support for the historic nomination of Ms. Loretta Lynch for Attorney General of the United States.

With over 30 years of legal experience, Ms. Lynch is unwavering in her efforts to create a more just society. A Harvard graduate with an extensive career in public service, private practice, and academia, she recognizes the value of all people and has fought vigorously to ensure their equal protection under the law.

She will carry the torch of justice to help make the United States a more perfect union. Ms. Lynch's commitment to civil rights stems from her family's roots in North Carolina. Her father, a Baptist minister, preached at a church where students would meet to organize anti-segregation boycotts. Her grandfather, a sharecropper and pastor in the 1930s, helped people in his community who faced challenges under the Jim Crow system.

Among Ms. Lynch's notable achievements in the Office of the U.S. Attorney in the Eastern District of New York was the successful prosecution of five police officers for the torture of Haitian immigrant Abner Louima. Her additional experience assisting the International Criminal Tribunal in Rwanda provides a unique vantage point, perspective, and depth regarding the inviolability of the law and the legal profession.

It is with great honor and hope for the future of this country that I ask you to give fair and timely consideration and vote in favor of her nomination. I appreciate your consideration of my views on this important matter.

Sincerely,

John Lewis
Member of Congress