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MIKE HILGERS
ATTORNEY GENERAL

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

March 21, 2025

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

Re: Letter of support from State Attorneys General regarding the nomination of Brett Shumate as Assistant Attorney General

Chairman Grassley, Ranking Member Durbin, and Members of the Committee:

We write as state Attorneys General in support of the nomination of Brett Shumate to be the Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Division of the United States Department of Justice. We ask that he be reported favorably by the Committee and ultimately urge his swift confirmation by the full Senate.

The Civil Division is the largest litigation unit at the Department of Justice, representing the Executive Branch against lawsuits, defending against challenges to federal programs, preserving the credibility of the government before the federal courts, protecting the public fisc, and ensuring that the President's policy agenda is successfully carried out.

As the chief legal or law enforcement officers for our respective States, we are regularly engaged in litigation in which the federal government is a party or amicus, and thus see the important work performed by attorneys from the Civil Division. We know better than anyone the importance of having a strong, principled, Senate-confirmed Assistant Attorney General to lead the Civil Division. We have every confidence that Mr. Shumate will lead the Civil Division with professionalism,

intellect, and judgment. And we have no doubt that he will serve President Trump, and ultimately the American people, with the utmost skill.

One need look no further than Mr. Shumate's resume, which includes both his tenure as a law partner at Jones Day, one of the nation's most elite law firms, as well as both his current and prior significant roles at the Department of Justice, to understand his fit for position for which he is nominated.

Mr. Shumate began his tenure in the second Trump Administration as the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Division. In that capacity, he also served as the Acting Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Division. Thus, Mr. Shumate has stood at the center of the most high-profile litigation that has arisen during the first weeks and months of the current Trump Administration. Mr. Shumate has appeared in matters argued in federal courts around the country, deftly defending challenged programs and initiatives, including several high-profile Executive Orders, advancing the interests of the federal government, and supporting President Trump's agenda. Nor is this Mr. Shumate's first foray into public service. Indeed, it is his third tour of duty at the Department of Justice, with his prior service under President Trump culminating in his leadership of the Federal Programs Branch and its more than 110 attorneys, a role in which he had responsibility for the federal government's highest-profile cases in the federal district courts.

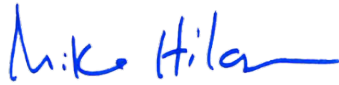
Mr. Shumate has played an important role in some of the most high-profile litigation during both of President Trump's terms in the White House: from the Emoluments Clause litigation to the legal battle over DACA and challenges to the President's ability to select and remove the head of the CFPB. In each of these matters—and many more—Mr. Shumate has worked diligently, advocated zealously, and maintained the highest degree of professionalism.

There is no doubt that the Civil Division will be at the forefront of many of the most consequential cases that arise during the current Administration. It is equally clear that Mr. Shumate is the right candidate to handle those matters, work with the States as adversaries and allies, and ensure that the Executive Branch, the President's agenda, and the public interest are protected in court with the best advocacy available.

Mr. Shumate has already demonstrated his ability to handle this job, his capacity to represent the United States with undeniable skill, and his dedication to faithfully defend the Constitution and the laws of the United States along the way.

We urge the Committee to act expeditiously on Mr. Shumate's nomination and report him favorably to the full Senate.

Sincerely,



Mike Hilgers
Nebraska Attorney General



Steve Marshall
Alabama Attorney General



Treg Taylor
Alaska Attorney General



Tim Griffin
Arkansas Attorney General



Chris Carr
Georgia Attorney General



Todd Rokita
Indiana Attorney General



Brenna Bird
Iowa Attorney General



Russell Coleman
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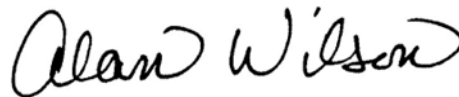
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