



MISSOURI FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

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September 23, 2026

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Nomination of Jesus A. Osete to the United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri

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

Missouri Farm Bureau writes in support of the nomination of Jesus A. Osete to serve as a United States District Judge for the Western District of Missouri. Missouri Farm Bureau represents farmers, ranchers, and rural families throughout our State. Our members depend every day on courts and government institutions that respect private property, apply the law fairly, and recognize the constitutional limits placed on government authority.

For Missouri agriculture, those principles are not abstract. A farmer's land is often not only a place of business but a family's most valuable asset and the product of generations of work. Decisions involving eminent domain, land use, regulation, and the exercise of government authority can determine whether that property remains productive and whether it can be passed to the next generation. That is why protecting private property rights and ensuring that landowners receive fair treatment from government have long been central priorities for Missouri Farm Bureau. We believe courts play an important role in ensuring that government acts within the authority the law gives it and respects the rights of the people affected by its decisions.

That is one reason Mr. Osete's experience is relevant to our members. He has served in senior legal roles in both Missouri and the federal government, including as Deputy Solicitor General and Deputy Attorney General for Special Litigation in Missouri and now as Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General in the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice. His experience also includes private appellate practice and service as a judicial law clerk.

Mr. Osete's career has therefore required him to engage with questions involving the scope of government authority, the relationship between state and federal law, constitutional protections, and the obligations public officials owe to the citizens they serve. Those are the same kinds of institutional questions that

matter to farmers and landowners when government action affects their property, businesses, and livelihoods.

Missouri Farm Bureau has repeatedly emphasized that strong property rights require more than substantive protections on paper. Landowners also need transparent processes, meaningful opportunities to be heard, and institutions willing to enforce the limits placed on government power. Federal courts are an important part of that system. Farmers, ranchers, and rural businesses should be able to expect that when they enter a courtroom, the law will be applied fairly and that government action will be measured against the constitutional and statutory limits that govern it.

Mr. Osete's professional record reflects substantial experience with those questions, as well as a strong connection to Missouri and years of public service to our State and country. Missouri Farm Bureau supports Mr. Osete's nomination and recommends that the Committee report his nomination favorably to the full Senate.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Garrett Hawkins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'G'.

Garrett Hawkins
President
Missouri Farm Bureau