

ROB PORTMAN
OHIO



UNITED STATES SENATE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

October 11, 2017

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Chairman, Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Minority Member, Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein:

I write to express my strong support for Brett Talley's nomination to serve as a U.S. District Court Judge in the Middle District of Alabama. For two years, Brett served with distinction as my chief speechwriter, during which time he consistently demonstrated good judgment, character, and a genuine commitment to public service. Moreover, I believe that Brett's temperament—including his patience, compassion, and eagerness to thoroughly understand and consider all sides of an argument—will serve him well as a federal judge.

Brett earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Alabama in 2004 and his J.D. from Harvard Law School in 2007. Following his graduation from Harvard, he worked as an associate at the law firm of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher. He subsequently served as a law clerk to Judge Joel F. Dubina on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit and as a speechwriter on Mitt Romney's presidential campaign. In 2015, Brett returned to Alabama to serve as Deputy Solicitor General in the Office of the Alabama Attorney General. He currently serves as Deputy Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Policy at the U.S. Department of Justice.

I am confident that as the Senate begins its examination of his nomination, Brett's honesty, integrity, and commitment to the rule of law will only become more apparent. His distinguished legal career illustrates that Brett possesses both the character and intellect befitting of a U.S. District Court Judge and, for these reasons, I reaffirm my support for his nomination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rob Portman".
Senator Rob Portman