



January 21, 2022

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Judge J. Michelle Childs, Nominee, U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia

Dear Senators Durbin and Grassley,

I appreciate the opportunity to enthusiastically endorse Judge J. Michelle Childs for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

I am the Henry G. Manne Professor of Law and Economics and Executive Director of the Law & Economics Center at George Mason University Antonin Scalia Law School. I served as Dean of the Law School from January 2015 to December 2020. A large portion of my career has been dedicated to running judicial education programs that focus on economics. I have done this at several institutions, including George Mason University, the University of Kansas, the AEI-Brookings Joint Center for Regulatory Studies, The Brookings Institution, and Northwestern University. The programs are offered with the idea that when judges understand economics, they are more likely to make sound decisions that support the rule of law and the free enterprise system, thus advancing innovation, entrepreneurship, job creation, and economic growth.


It is through these programs that I have come to know Judge Childs. We first met when she attended a judicial symposium on "The Pharmaceutical Industry: Economics, Regulation, and Legal Issues" sponsored by Northwestern University in 2009. We have since had time together at our annual *Judicial Symposium on Civil Justices Issues* and the annual meetings of the American College of Business Court Judges. I was honored when she agreed to join our Judicial Advisory Board on July 1, 2017.

Judge Childs would be an outstanding addition to the D.C. Circuit. Her professional demeanor, integrity, intellect, and ability to openly consider and discuss issues with many sides make her well suited to the position. Her warmth and kindness toward all are an added benefit.

I have met many judges over the years, I believe Judge Childs exemplifies the qualities we as a country value in our judiciary and I urge you to confirm her.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "H N Butler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "H" being particularly prominent.

Henry N. Butler, J.D., Ph.D.

Henry G. Manne Professor of Law and Economics

Executive Director, Law & Economics Professor

Dean, 2015-2020