

January 27, 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

Dear Senator Durbin and Senator Grassley,

I write this letter in strong support of the nomination of Judge Michelle Childs to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. I have known Judge Childs since 2005, and she is a judge of the highest caliber: outstanding intellectual capacity, extensive legal knowledge, fairness, and excellent judicial temperament.

Judge Childs has a reputation for her outstanding legal mind and her extensive knowledge of the law. She has been a federal district court judge since 2010. Prior to that she served on the South Carolina circuit court. I got to know Judge Childs when I arrived at the University of South Carolina School of Law as an assistant professor in 2005. She already had an outstanding reputation as specialist on labor and employment law. Judge Childs worked in private practice at Nexsen Pruet LLC, and she became the first African American partner in that law firm. Her practice specialized in labor and employment law, and general litigation.

Judge Childs is a nationally recognized leader in the legal profession. She has served as chair of the American Bar Association's Judicial Division. In that role, she supported and promoted the importance of the judiciary and worked to expand knowledge about civics. For example, she planned and sponsored a major program on the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment. She also sponsored programs on the importance of judicial clerkships. Judge Childs has also been elected to the American Law Institute, one of the highest honors for recognition in the law. She is also known for giving outstanding lectures on litigation and trial techniques, discovery and expert witness testimony, and courtroom procedure.



Judge Childs has shown her deep commitment to judicial impartiality and fairness. She is well thought of among member of both parties. She actively participates in bipartisan activities, such as the Liberty Fellowship, which is a part of the Aspen Institute fellowship programs.

Judge Childs is also an outstanding member of her community. She participates in extensive public service work. For example, I started a middle school mentoring program at the University of South Carolina. Each year, Judge Childs would come to the law school and be the judge for the students as they completed their capstone project of a moot court argument. She spent time with the middle school students afterwards and encouraged them to go on to higher education and graduate school.

As the dean of one of the local District of Columbia law schools, I know that Judge Childs has also taken an active interest and participated in the D.C. legal community. Last year, she sponsored a judicial clerkship program that drew students from Howard University and the other local law schools.

In conclusion, I believe Judge Childs will make an outstanding member of the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. She has a first-rate legal mind, is extremely hard working, and deeply committed to the fair and equitable administration of justice.

Sincerely,

Danielle Holley-Walker