



January 7, 2014

Senator Patrick Leahy  
Chairman  
Senate Judiciary Committee  
437 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Chuck Grassley  
Ranking Member  
Senate Judiciary Committee  
135 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley,

As the oldest national organization advocating for the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people and their families, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force would like to express our strong support for the nomination of Debo P. Adebile to be the Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice. The Civil Rights Division plays a critical role in protecting the rights of LGBT people, and Mr. Adebile's skills as an advocate, litigator, and consensus-builder make him an ideal candidate to lead a division committed to the advancement of justice.

The Civil Rights Division protects the LGBT community in schools and at work, in public housing and public accommodations, in jails and on the streets. Strong leadership in the division has translated directly into strong protections for our community. Debo Adebile is the leader the Civil Rights Division needs to carry on this work.

Mr. Adebile's work at the nation's first civil rights firm, a large corporate law firm, and at the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. firmly established his reputation as one of the preeminent civil rights litigators of his generation. At the same time, his principled and measured approach to his work has earned him bipartisan support from colleagues, lawyers, and leaders, including former Solicitors General Paul Clement and Drew Days.

Alongside his professional career, Mr. Adebile has maintained his commitment to the success of his community. He presently sits on the boards of his college and middle school, and frequently takes time to speak to students about the importance of the law, civil rights, and educational and professional opportunity.

Mr. Adebile has the experience and understanding of civil rights laws that would enable him to effectively enforce the rights of all Americans, including members of the LGBT community, as the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights. We urge the Senate to swiftly vote to confirm his nomination.

Sincerely,

Rea Carey  
Executive Director

Cc: Members of Judiciary Committee

Senator Dianne Feinstein

Senator Chuck Schumer

Senator Orrin Hatch

Senator Dick Durbin

Senator Jeff Sessions

Senator Sheldon Whitehouse

Senator Lindsey Graham

Senator Amy Klobuchar

Senator John Cornyn

Senator Al Franken

Senator Michael S. Lee

Senator Christopher Coons

Senator Ted Cruz

Senator Richard Blumenthal

Senator Jeff Flake

Senator Mazie Hirono