



July 25, 2018

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Democratic Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Leader McConnell and Leader Schumer:

As governors, we stand in support of President Donald Trump's nomination of Judge Brett M. Kavanaugh and encourage the United States Senate to move expeditiously to confirm his appointment as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. We make this request based on his track record of upholding the Constitution and his distinguished credentials that eminently qualify him to serve on the nation's highest court.

As Judge Kavanaugh stated in his remarks to the nation, his judicial philosophy is straightforward. He believes a judge must be independent and open-minded and must interpret the law as written. As his record shows, he will interpret the Constitution as written, informed by history, tradition, and precedent. Judge Kavanaugh will adjudicate legal disputes with impartiality, preserving the Constitution of the United States and the rule of law.

Judge Kavanaugh's impeccable credentials demonstrate he is worthy of this nomination. After receiving his undergraduate and law degrees from Yale, Judge Kavanaugh clerked for Justice Anthony Kennedy of the Supreme Court, Judge Walter Stapleton of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, and Judge Alex Kozinski of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. He went on to become a Bristow Fellow in the Office of the Solicitor General of the United States, an associate in the Office of Independent Counsel Ken Starr, and a partner at Kirkland & Ellis. Judge Kavanaugh later served President George W. Bush as associate counsel, senior associate counsel, and assistant to the president and staff secretary. Judge Kavanaugh also teaches at Harvard Law School.

Nominated to the United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit by President George W. Bush and confirmed by the United States Senate in 2006, Judge Kavanaugh has written roughly 300 opinions, which have been cited by judges across the country. If confirmed as Associate Justice, we have no doubt Judge Kavanaugh will continue to set aside his personal preferences and make decisions based on the law.

Thirty years ago, President Ronald Reagan nominated Justice Anthony Kennedy, a man who devoted his career to securing the liberty of our nation, to the Supreme Court of the United States. It seems right and fitting for one of Justice Kennedy's own law clerks to follow in his footsteps and continue our nation's great tradition of the rule of law. We strongly urge the United States Senate to expeditiously confirm Judge Brett Kavanaugh and look forward to him serving as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court.

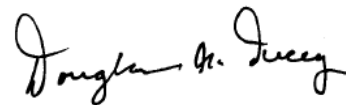
Sincerely,



Governor Bill Haslam
Tennessee



Governor Kay Ivey
Alabama



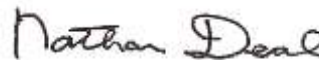
Governor Douglas A. Ducey
Arizona



Governor Asa Hutchinson
Arkansas



Governor Rick Scott
Florida



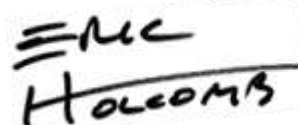
Governor Nathan Deal
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Governor Edward J. Baza Calvo
Guam



Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter
Idaho



Governor Eric Holcomb
Indiana



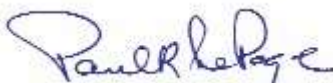
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Mississippi



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Nebraska



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Nevada



Governor Christopher T. Sununu
New Hampshire



Governor Susana Martinez
New Mexico



Governor Doug Burgum
North Dakota



Governor Ralph Torres
Northern Mariana Islands



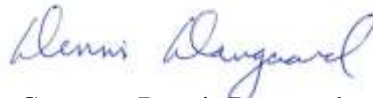
Governor John R. Kasich
Ohio



Governor Mary Fallin
Oklahoma



Governor Henry McMaster
South Carolina



Governor Dennis Daugaard
South Dakota



Governor Greg Abbott
Texas



Governor Gary R. Herbert
Utah



Governor Jim Justice
West Virginia



Governor Scott Walker
Wisconsin



Governor Matthew H. Mead
Wyoming

cc: Chairman Chuck Grassley
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Ranking Member Dianne Feinstein
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510