

August 27, 2018

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
152 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Nomination of Brett M. Kavanaugh for United States Supreme Court

Dear Chairman Grassley and Senator Feinstein:

We are a bipartisan group of Brett Kavanaugh's classmates from the Yale Law School Class of 1990. Many of us have kept in touch with him ever since and value his friendship greatly.

Although we doubt we will agree with every decision Judge Kavanaugh may make as a justice (just as many of us have not agreed with every opinion of his as a United States Circuit Judge), we firmly believe that Judge Kavanaugh would make decisions thoughtfully, honestly and impartially, and after careful, thorough and respectful consideration of precedent, the case records and the arguments of the litigants.

From the time we first met Judge Kavanaugh as a classmate, he has impressed us with his considerable intellect, friendly manner, good sense of humor and humility. His contributions to class discussions as a law student were perceptive, fair-minded, rational and calm. His service as a Notes Editor of the *Yale Law Journal* demonstrated his capacity for hard work, thoroughness, thoughtfulness and collegiality. Judge Kavanaugh was, and remains, well-liked and respected by those who know him, regardless of their political party affiliations or stands on political issues. In the passionate intellectual atmosphere of Yale Law School, none of us can say that Judge Kavanaugh stood out as ideological at all. He was not a person with an agenda. Rather, he was a thoughtful classmate and loyal friend who obviously loved the intellectual challenges of the law and the good company of his peers.

We remember Judge Kavanaugh from our law school days not just for his hard work on the *Journal* or his wisdom in the classroom, but also for his competitiveness in intramural basketball and his good-natured friendship. Judge Kavanaugh is a person anyone would be proud to have as a friend. He is extraordinarily bright, yet modest and humble about his intellect. He has demonstrated his exemplary judicial temperament as a United States Circuit Judge and we have high hopes that he would have a positive influence on the collegiality of the Supreme Court. We were favorably impressed that he publicly expressed admiration of the qualifications of his colleague Merrick Garland for the Supreme Court when Chief Judge Garland was nominated.

Disagreements we may have had over the years about policy views have not diminished our conviction that Judge Kavanaugh is a fair-minded and reasonable judge who seeks to interpret and apply the law fairly. Based on our years of knowing Judge Kavanaugh, we are firmly convinced that his allegiance as a Supreme Court justice would be only to the Constitution and laws of the United States and not to any partisan interests. Many of us served as law clerks to judges across America, in chambers for United States District Court, United States Court of Appeals and state Supreme Court judges. In that experience and in our subsequent legal careers, we have seen many models of outstanding judges, who treat every litigant before them with respect and who work hard to apply the law to reach a just result in every case before them. We believe Judge Kavanaugh has lived up to those models.

We appreciate the opportunity to submit this letter in support of Brett Kavanaugh.

Respectfully,

Rob Bergdolt
Randy Berholtz
James Brochin
Michelle H. Browdy
Trevor A. Brown
Edmund C. Burns
Paul W. Cobb, Jr.
Sheldon Fisher
David Flattum
Jonathan Franklin
Steven Hartmann
John P. Irwin

Paul E. Kalb
Barr Linton
Stephanie Marcus
Mark W. Osler
Michael J. Proctor
Jacob S. Pultman
Mary Humes Quillen
Robert Rivera, Jr.
Doug Rutzen
Floyd G. Short
Kent Sinclair