March 30, 2021

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

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

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

We, the undersigned, are law professors with expertise in a diverse array of fields and from law schools throughout the country. We write in support of President Joe Biden’s nomination of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson to serve on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. Judge Jackson is perfectly qualified for the position; she has demonstrated excellent legal ability and shown her commitment to the principles of liberty, equality, and fairness, as well as the highest ethical and professional standards.

Judge Jackson possesses the brilliance, judgment, temperament, and experience required for an appellate jurist. From her earliest days, she distinguished herself as a thoughtful legal mind and skilled practitioner. She graduated magna cum laude from Harvard College and cum laude from Harvard Law School, where she served as an editor of the Harvard Law Review. She went on to three federal court clerkships -- at every level of the federal court system, for both Republican and Democratic-appointed judges -- Judge Patti B. Saris of the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts, Judge Bruce M. Selya of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, and Justice Stephen Breyer on the United States Supreme Court.

As demonstrated by her eight years on the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, Judge Jackson’s strong record demonstrates a high level of intellect and integrity. Judge Jackson has rarely been reversed on appeal (fewer than a dozen times out of the more than 550 judicial decisions she has authored), making her one of the judges most likely to be affirmed by the appellate court in her circuit. She has a reputation as a fair, impartial, highly intelligent jurist with fidelity to statutory law and the Constitution as her guide.
Prior to her years on the bench, she had an exemplary legal career. She gained wide-ranging experience at the highest levels of the legal profession having served as a federal public defender, private sector appellate and trial attorney, and Vice Chair of the United States Sentencing Commission. Her familiarity with public and private litigation on various legal issues makes her well-suited to serve on the U.S. Court of Appeals. Her broad and deep experience led the Senate to confirm her twice before.

We are confident that Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson will be an excellent addition to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. We urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to advance her nomination to the full Senate.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ralph Richard Banks
Jackson Eli Reynolds Professor of Law
Stanford Law School

Rachel Barkow
Vice Dean and Charles Seligson Professor of Law
NYU School of Law

Douglas A. Berman
Newton D. Baker - Baker & Hostetler Chair in Law
The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law

Tomiko Brown-Nagin
Dean, Harvard Radcliffe Institute
Daniel P.S. Paul Professor of Constitutional Law
Harvard Law School

Jonathan Cardi
Professor of Law
Wake Forest University School of Law
Sheryll Cashin
Carmack Waterhouse Professor of Law, Civil Rights, and Social Justice
Georgetown University Law Center

Guy-Uriel Charles
Edward and Ellen Schwartzman Professor of Law
Duke Law School

Erwin Chemerinsky
Dean and Jesse H. Choper Distinguished Professor of Law
University of California, Berkeley School of Law

Amy Chua
John M. Duff, Jr. Professor of Law
Yale Law School

Joshua A. Douglas
Ashland, Inc-Spears Distinguished Research Professor of Law
University of Kentucky J. David Rosenberg College of Law

Justin Driver
Robert R. Slaughter Professor of Law
Yale Law School

Lisa M. Fairfax
Alexander Hamilton Professor of Business Law
George Washington University Law School

Noah Feldman
Felix Frankfurter Professor of Law
Harvard Law School

Martha A. Field
Langdell Professor of Law
Harvard Law School

Mary Anne Franks
Professor of Law & Dean's Distinguished Scholar
University of Miami School of Law
Richard W. Garnett  
Paul J. Schierl / Fort Howard Corporation Professor of Law  
Notre Dame Law School

Jeannie Suk Gersen  
John H. Watson, Jr. Professor of Law  
Harvard Law School

Jamal Greene  
Dwight Professor of Law  
Columbia Law School

Daniel Hemel  
Professor of Law and Ronald H. Coase Research Scholar  
University of Chicago Law School

Carissa Byrne Hessick  
Anne Shea Ransdell and William Garland "Buck" Ransdell, Jr. Distinguished Professor of Law  
University of North Carolina School of Law

Bert I. Huang  
Michael I. Sovern Professor of Law  
Columbia Law School

Christine Jolls  
Gordon Bradford Tweedy Professor of Law and Organization  
Yale Law School

Lawrence Lessig  
Roy L. Furman Professor of Law and Leadership  
Harvard Law School

Leah Litman  
Assistant Professor of Law  
University of Michigan Law School

Bruce H. Mann  
Carl F. Schipper, Jr. Professor of Law  
Harvard Law School
Martha Minow
300th Anniversary University Professor, Harvard University and former Dean
Harvard Law School

Melissa Murray
Frederick I. and Grace Stokes Professor of Law
NYU School of Law

Jennifer Nou
Professor of Law
University of Chicago Law School

Anne Joseph O’Connell
Adelbert H. Sweet Professor of Law
Stanford Law School

Spencer Overton
Professor of Law
George Washington University Law School

Nathaniel Persily
James B. McClatchy Professor of Law
Stanford Law School

Richard Primus
Theodore J. St. Antoine Collegiate Professor
University of Michigan Law School

Intisar Rabb
Professor of Law
Harvard Law School

Frank S. Ravitch
Professor of Law and Walter H. Stowers Chair in Law and Religion
Michigan State University College of Law

Richard L. Revesz
AnBryce Professor of Law and Dean Emeritus
NYU School of Law
Russell K. Robinson  
Walter Perry Johnson Professor of Law  
University of California, Berkeley School of Law

Daniel B. Rodriguez  
Harold Washington Professor and Dean Emeritus  
Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law

Kermit Roosevelt III  
Professor of Law  
University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School

Theodore Ruger  
Dean and Bernard G. Segal Professor of Law  
University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School

Richard Schragger  
Perre Bowen Professor of Law  
University of Virginia School of Law

Geoffrey R. Stone  
Edward H. Levi Distinguished Service Professor of Law and former Dean  
University of Chicago School of Law

Lior J. Strahilevitz  
Sidley Austin Professor of Law  
University of Chicago School of Law

David A. Strauss  
Gerald Ratner Distinguished Service Professor of Law  
University of Chicago Law School

Franita Tolson  
Vice Dean for Faculty and Academic Affairs, and Professor of Law  
USC Gould School of Law

Laurence H. Tribe  
Carl M. Loeb University Professor and  
Professor of Constitutional Law Emeritus  
Harvard Law School
Rebecca Tushnet
Frank Stanton Professor of First Amendment Law
Harvard Law School

Amanda L. Tyler
Shannon Cecil Turner Professor of Law
University of California, Berkeley School of Law

Sonja R. West
Brumby Distinguished Professor in First Amendment Law
University of Georgia School of Law

Jonathan Zittrain
George Bemis Professor of International Law
Harvard Law School

* Institutional affiliations are listed for purposes of identification only.