State Legislative Leaders in All 50 States Support the Nomination of Judge Amy Coney Barrett to the U.S. Supreme Court and Urge the U.S. Senate to Conduct a Prompt, Thorough and Fair Hearing Process

October 12, 2020

Dear Leader McConnell, Minority Leader Schumer, Judiciary Chairman Graham and Ranking Member Feinstein:

As legislative leaders who represent all 50 states and 92 state legislative chambers across this nation, we wish to express our full confidence in Judge Amy Coney Barrett, President Donald Trump’s nominee to the United States Supreme Court.

President Trump has been transparent with the American people about who he has considered, and he was prompt in putting forth a nominee for your consideration. This was consistent with more than 200 years of precedent. Indeed, there have been more than two dozen Supreme Court vacancies during an election year or before an inauguration. In each of those cases, the sitting President made a nomination to the nation’s highest court.

We ask that you honor your responsibility to give Judge Barrett full and fair consideration and that you approve her nomination as soon as possible. We are confident that she is up to the task of undergoing the Senate’s hearing process and will demonstrate how qualified she is to sit on the highest court of our land.

Judge Barrett’s qualifications are undeniable. She is a well-respected federal judge and a former Supreme Court law clerk. She is a brilliant legal scholar and has been selected as distinguished professor of the year by three of Notre Dame Law School’s graduating classes. Judge Barrett has the right judicial temperament to serve on the nation’s highest court. Her colleagues and students, of all political persuasions, have already expressed their admiration and support for her abilities, her judicial philosophy, and her reverence for the U.S. Constitution.
We respect every member of the U.S. Senate’s right to vote his or her conscience, to accept or reject judicial nominees as they see fit. However, we do not wish to see a repeat of the personal attacks to which Justice Brett Kavanaugh and his family were subjected. We believe that Judge Barrett, and the people of this great nation, deserve serious discussions about judicial philosophy and qualifications, rather than politics.

On behalf of the millions of American citizens we represent, we respectfully request a prompt, objective and fair hearing. In this, America can honor the life, accomplishments and public service of the late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and move the important work of our Supreme Court forward.

Thank you for the diligence, commitment and accountability with which you undertake this responsibility.

Sincerely,

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