

Mr. Hugh Q. Gottschalk  
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February 16, 2017

Senator Michael Bennet  
1127 Sherman St., Suite 150  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Senator Bennet:

I am writing to urge you to vote to confirm Judge Neil Gorsuch as an Associate Justice to the United States Supreme Court.

As you know, I am a long time Colorado Democrat who has voted for you and made financial contributions to support your campaigns. One of the reasons I have been such an enthusiastic supporter is because you have always been a thoughtful, bipartisan politician who is looking for solutions, not headlines. In what may be the most polarizing political event in years, I ask you to demonstrate those same attributes with respect to Judge Gorsuch's nomination.

I have practiced law in Denver for 35 years, and I have been the President of Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell, a 100 lawyer litigation firm, for the past 16 years. I think it is fair to say I know the Denver legal community and its judges very well, and I have never heard anyone say a bad word about Judge Gorsuch. He has a distinguished academic record, an extraordinarily successful career as a private and government attorney, and he has performed with distinction as a judge on the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals. Of equal importance, he is a man of character and integrity, with an incredible sense of humility given his success and accomplishments.

Notwithstanding the lack of any meritorious basis to vote against Judge Gorsuch, various Democratic Senators have suggested that because the Republicans stonewalled the nomination of Judge Garland, they will vote against Judge Gorsuch. I strongly urge you to reject that view, and to urge your fellow Democratic Senators to do the same. Even though I understand that Judge Gorsuch is a judicial conservative and would probably not be your first choice (or mine) for the Court, he is eminently qualified, and should be confirmed.

As you and I have discussed at various times, our political system seems to be broken, with partisan fury getting in the way of solutions to our most pressing problems. Please don't let that partisan fury prevent you from evaluating Judge Gorsuch on the merits, which I am certain will lead you to vote for his confirmation.

Respectfully,



Hugh Q. Gottschalk