

AFL-CIO

LEGISLATIVE ALERT

May 20, 2021

The Honorable Richard Durbin, Chairman
The Honorable Charles Grassley, Ranking Member
Senate Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington DC 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

I write on behalf of the AFL-CIO to strongly recommend confirmation of United States District Court Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson for the United States Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit. Her nomination reflects President Biden's commitment to appoint highly qualified judges who are committed to protecting the rights of people and who, if confirmed, would expand diversity in the federal bench. Throughout her professional life, most recently as a district judge in D.C., Judge Jackson has demonstrated a strong commitment to equal justice under the law as she under the law throughout her professional life.

Judge Jackson brings a wealth of professional experience to this seat. Before her appointment to the district court, she served as judicial clerk at every level of the federal judiciary. She worked in private practice both in civil and criminal law and served as Vice Chair of the bipartisan U.S. Sentencing Commission to establish more equitable sentencing guidelines. She also spent a number of years as an Assistant Federal Public Defender in the appeals division of the Office of the Federal Public Defender in the District of Columbia.

Judge Jackson's career represents the highest level of professional accomplishment, and she merits elevation to the United States Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit due to her stellar record. To date, only eight African-American women have served as federal appellate judges, and if confirmed, Judge Jackson would be only the third African-American woman on the DC Circuit. The AFL-CIO strongly supports the elevation of Judge Jackson because she is extraordinarily well qualified and would bring important demographic diversity to the circuit.

We urge her swift confirmation.

Sincerely,



William Samuel
Director, Government Affairs

American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations

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