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September 29, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
U.S. Capitol Building, Room: S-230
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
U.S. Capitol Building, Room: S-221
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Leader McConnell and Leader Schumer,

The National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) is America's trade association for the firearm, ammunition, hunting and recreational shooting sports industry. Our over 9,000 member companies include federally licensed manufacturers, distributors, and retailers of firearms and ammunition products. On behalf of our members nationwide, I am writing to express our strong support for the confirmation of Judge Amy Coney Barrett as an Associate Justice to the United States Supreme Court.

Upon introducing Judge Barrett as his nominee during the September 26 Rose Garden ceremony, President Trump said with confidence, "Amy Coney Barrett will decide cases based on the text of the Constitution as written. As Amy has said, 'Being a judge takes courage. You are not there to decide cases as you may prefer. You are there to do your duty and to follow the law wherever it may take you.' That is exactly what Judge Barrett will do on the U.S. Supreme Court."

In the same ceremony upon her acceptance, Judge Barrett noted, "I clerked for Justice Scalia more than 20 years ago, but the lessons I learned still resonate. His judicial philosophy is mine too: A judge must apply the law as written. Judges are not policymakers, and they must be resolute in setting aside any policy views they might hold."

Originalism among jurists is something the firearm industry holds in deep regard. NSSF is confident that Judge Barrett will serve our nation with great distinction as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, and her commitment to interpreting statutes and the Constitution as written and discharging her duties faithfully and impartially will not waver.

Her impartiality and her steadfast support and respect for the law has earned her the respect and support from individuals across the political spectrum. As you are aware, on October 31, 2017, the Senate confirmed Judge Barrett to serve on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit by a bipartisan vote of 55-43. Three Democratic Senators supported her then, and according to the President when he nominated her in 2017, she received the endorsement from every law clerk from her time at the Supreme Court—Democrats, Republicans, and Independents.

Judge Barrett is among the most highly qualified individuals nominated to serve on our nation's highest court. Her dedication is unparalleled and her love for our country and for the U.S. Constitution is admirable. As the members of the United States Senate practice their constitutional duty to provide their advice and consent, NSSF hopes that all senators give her nomination the consideration she is due and strongly urges their support and vote for Judge Barrett as Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

Sincerely,

Lawrence G. Keane

Cc: Lindsey Graham, Chairman, Senate Committee on the Judiciary
Dianne Feinstein, Ranking Member, Senate Committee on the Judiciary