

ROB KAUFFMAN, MEMBER
89TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT



House of Representatives
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg

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JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

RULES

October 14, 2020

The Honorable Bob Casey
United States Senate
393 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Pat Toomey
United States Senate
248 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Casey and Toomey:

Seldom does the opportunity arise for the appointment and confirmation of a new Justice to the Supreme Court of the United States. Without exception, a vacancy in the Court's membership is the result of a loss - sometimes through retirement, but too often by a departure to eternal rest. But also without exception, each vacancy leads to a bright renewal of the Court by lending a new voice, perspective, and mind to that august institution. The Constitution rightfully charges the President and the United States Senate with the awesome duty of providing for that renewal without delay. And it is for that reason that we write now to urge you to pursue prompt confirmation of Judge Amy Coney Barrett as Justice to the Supreme Court of the United States.

Judge Coney Barrett's experience and academic record are exemplary. She serves now with distinction as a Judge of the Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, but her excellence long preceded this appointment. She clerked for the United States Supreme Court and has taught law, adored by her students and universally respected by her fellow faculty. Her students call her "supremely qualified" and her faculty is "united . . . in our judgment" of Judge Coney Barrett's stellar credentials. Now as a jurist, Judge Coney Barrett has demonstrated her commitment to the Constitution and the rule of law. When she has authored a lead legal opinion, the decisions in those cases have been unanimous in more than 95% of the time, showing both her resolute loyalty to the law and her ability to build consensus with her colleagues.

The descriptions of Judge Coney Barrett's intellect by those who know her best are compelling. One professor of law at Notre Dame Law School who has known and worked aside Judge Coney Barrett for over 15 years said she "has an incandescent mind" which confirmed her brilliance as both a scholar and teacher. When Judge Coney Barrett was nominated to serve as a judge on the Court of Appeals, every single law clerk who served with her at the Supreme Court from every political viewpoint unanimously supported her, applauding her as "a woman of remarkable intellect and character." A former teacher of hers at Notre Dame Law School who later became dean of Boston University Law School and is now president of the Catholic University of America has praised Judge Coney Barrett with the most unequivocal of endorsements from a lifetime academic: "Amy Coney," he wrote, "is the best student I ever had."

Perhaps most compelling about Judge Coney Barrett, however, is her embrace of faith and family. With the support of her husband, she has kept faith and family at the core of her values. She and her husband parent seven children, two of whom are adopted, one with special needs. Yet she has ascended to the pinnacle of her profession while not sacrificing the pursuit of personal fulfillment as a mother. This grounding as a warm, decent human being - bringing her love to action in her life - anchors her. Legal cases, which are brought before her merely as printed words on a page, are not subjects of cold ideological calculation. Informed by her own humility, she knows each case deserves compassion because each case affects true, living human beings. Every case matters, very personally, to the litigants. Judge Coney Barrett has never forgotten this, and so accords every case the dignity that every person deserves.

We are convinced that Judge Coney Barrett's experience, temperament, brilliance, patriotism, and humanity make her a singularly outstanding selection to join the Supreme Court of the United States. We therefore urge you to confirm her appointment without delay.

Best regards,



Rob Kauffman, Majority Chairman
House Judiciary Committee
89th Legislative District



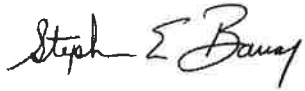
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House Appropriations Committee
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Kathy Rapp, Majority Chairman
House Health Committee
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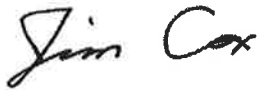
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House Majority Whip
63rd Legislative District



Stephen Barrar, Majority Chairman
House Veterans & Emergency Preparedness Committee
160th Legislative District



Martin Causer, Majority Chairman
House Policy Committee
67th Legislative District



Jim Cox, Majority Chairman
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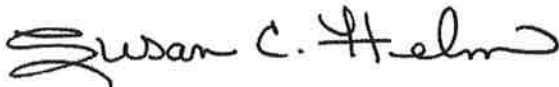
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Garth Everett, Majority Chairman
House State Government Committee
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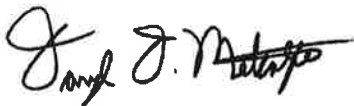
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102nd Legislative District



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51st Legislative District



Cris Dush, Representative
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Torren Ecker, Representative
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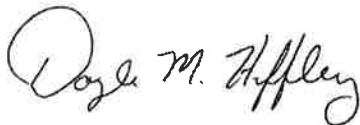
Jonathan Fritz, Representative
111th Legislative District



Barbara Gleim, Representative
199th Legislative District



Keith Greiner, Representative
43rd Legislative District



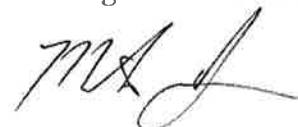
Doyle Heffley, Representative
122nd Legislative District



Jonathan Hershey, Representative
82nd Legislative District



R. Lee James, Representative
64th Legislative District



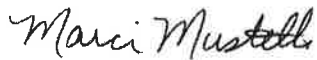
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Jerry Knowles, Representative
124th Legislative District



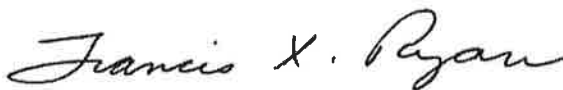
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Kate Klunk, Representative
169th Legislative District



Andrew Lewis, Representative
105th Legislative District



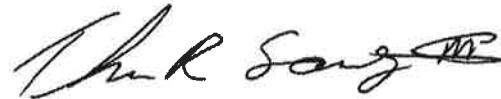
Eric Nelson, Representative
57th Legislative District



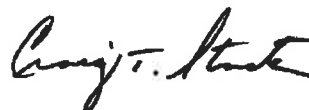
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73rd Legislative District



Craig Staats, Representative
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James Struzzie, Representative
62nd Legislative District



Ryan Warner, Representative
52nd Legislative District



David Zimmerman, Representative
99th Legislative District



Jesse Topper
78th Legislative District



Jeff Wheeland
83rd Legislative District

CC: Honorable Donald Trump, The President
Honorable Dianne Feinstein, United States Senate
Honorable Lindsey Graham, United States Senate
Honorable Mitch McConnell, United States Senate
Honorable Charles Schumer, United States Senate