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JUSTICES
C. SHANNON BACON
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JULIE J. VARGAS
BRIANA H. ZAMORA

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October 28, 2021

The Honorable Dick Durbin Chairman Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley Ranking Member Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Nomination of David Herrera Urias to the U.S. District Court for the District of New Mexico

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley,

My name is Briana Zamora and I am currently a Justice of the New Mexico Supreme Court and a former state district court judge. It is with great pleasure that I write to recommend the nomination of David Herrera Urias to serve as a judge in the United States District Court for the District of New Mexico. Mr. Urias and I met over two decades ago at the UNM School of Law. Since that time, I have always been impressed by Mr. Urias intellect, keen sense of justice and calm demeanor.

As a state court judge for over a decade, I understand the judicial skills needed to provide litigants meaningful and timely access to justice. Mr. Urias work ethic is unmatched. Like many states, New Mexico has a backlog of cases. I am confident that Mr. Urias will work tirelessly to ensure the timely disposition of cases. Additionally, his brilliant legal mind and diligence in analyzing the law will provide litigants with well-reasoned and just decisions.

At a personal level, Mr. Urias is a genuine and thoughtful person who has served New Mexico with integrity. New Mexico is a diverse state, not only culturally, but also geographically. Because Mr. Urias was born, raised, and educated in New Mexico he has a deep understanding and appreciation of New Mexico's diversity. He has empathy for all individuals involved in our

justice system regardless of their background. It is without hesitation, that I recommend Mr. Urias for this position. If you need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

Briana H. Zamora, Justice New Mexico Supreme Court 237 Don Gaspar Ave

Santa Fe, NM 87501