



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE APPEALS COURT
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02108

November 23, 2022

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin, Chair
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
711 Hart Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley, Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
135 Hart Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chair Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

We write to express our enthusiastic and unqualified support for Julia Kobick, who has been nominated to serve as a judge on the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts. We are a group of current and retired members of the Massachusetts trial and appellate courts and have a diverse range of professional backgrounds: former government attorneys, federal and state prosecutors, criminal defense attorneys, large and small firm attorneys, and a law school professor and administrator. Several of us also worked with Ms. Kobick in our former roles as Assistant Attorneys General in the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office.

After completing three federal clerkships—with Judge F. Dennis Saylor IV of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts, Judge Michael A. Chagares of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, and United States Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg—Ms. Kobick had a wealth of opportunities available to her to begin her career. She chose to devote her entire career to public service, arriving at the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office in 2013, where she remains today. For the past decade, she has served the residents of Massachusetts with distinction, defending the legality of a wide range of state statutes, regulations, and agency actions. Many of her cases have involved highly complex and nuanced issues of constitutional law and issues concerning the interpretation and application of federal statutes.

During her career Ms. Kobick has appeared regularly in the trial courts and the appellate courts, both federal and state. She has examined witnesses and written and argued

numerous dispositive and nondispositive motions in trial court proceedings, and has written briefs and presented oral argument in numerous cases on appeal. We have had the opportunity to observe Ms. Kobick professionally and can attest that she is an exceptionally talented attorney, who has an impeccable reputation with the bench and the bar alike. She is a highly skilled writer and insightful advocate and has the ability to explain even the most complicated points of law so that they are accessible to anyone. Both her written and oral presentations are notable for their clarity and conciseness—skills that we believe are critical to be an effective judge.

In addition to her considerable legal talents, Ms. Kobick's integrity, temperament, and character traits make her well suited to be a judge. She is calm, patient, and an excellent listener. She is committed to the rule of law, as she has consistently demonstrated throughout her career. She has been involved in the community, regularly volunteering as a mentor through an organization that supports law students committed to public interest and public policy work. Based on Ms. Kobick's experience and character, we are confident that she will be a fair and impartial judge who will be courteous to all litigants appearing before her, represented and unrepresented, and who will strive to ensure that all have a full opportunity to be heard.

We take seriously a decision to support a nomination to a position as important as federal district court judge. We are unified nonetheless in our support for Ms. Kobick. She is a dedicated public servant and an attorney of the highest caliber and character. Her intellect, work ethic, integrity, and humility will make her transition from litigator to trial judge seamless. We are confident that she will uphold the independence and impartiality of the federal judiciary, and we are proud to give her our support.

We respectfully urge that the Senate Judiciary Committee vote in favor of Ms. Kobick's nomination.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Margot Botsford
Associate Justice (Ret.)
Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court

Gregory I. Massing
Associate Justice
Massachusetts Appeals Court

Sookyung Shin
Associate Justice
Massachusetts Appeals Court

Joseph M. Dittkoff
Associate Justice
Massachusetts Appeals Court

Peter W. Sacks
Associate Justice
Massachusetts Appeals Court

Christopher K. Barry-Smith
Associate Justice
Massachusetts Superior Court