

July 13, 2021

United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin, Ranking Member Grassley, and Committee Members:

On behalf of the 180,000 advocates of National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW), I write to express our support for the nomination of Myrna Perez to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. Myrna Perez is widely considered one of our nation's top legal minds, particularly in the area of voting rights. She serves as director of the Brennan Center's Voting Rights and Elections Program, leading the program's research, advocacy, and litigation work nationwide. Perez has argued in cutting edge and complex cases in federal and state court houses across the country, taught at both Columbia and New York University law schools, and testified before Congress and several state legislatures. At every turn, Perez has dedicated her professional career to protecting our democracy and freedom to vote.

At NCJW we know that for our courts to work for all of us, they must reflect the communities they serve. Yet despite making up nearly 20 percent of the US population, Latinos make up only 8 percent of active federal judges in the nation. If confirmed, Perez would be the only Latina on the court and the first since Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor. The daughter of Mexican immigrants and the first in her birth family to graduate from college, Perez's real world experience and civil rights background would bring a valuable lens to the Second Circuit.

The importance of justice is a key part of Jewish tradition, and both our tradition and text include the need for unbiased judges as well as fair and impartial courts. This informs NCJW's efforts to ensure our federal courts are comprised of fair, qualified, and impartial judges who render decisions equally. Indeed Perez has demonstrated a commitment to civil and human rights throughout her career — and coupled with her extraordinary qualifications as a litigator and legal academic — NCJW has no doubt Perez will work tirelessly to ensure equal justice for all.

We look forward to having someone on the bench who has such a deep understanding of the law and its impact on people's lives, and urge you to support the nomination of Myrna Perez to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

Sincerely,



Jody Rabhan
Chief Policy Officer
National Council of Jewish Women