

October 7th, 2022

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

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

The Portland Business Alliance (the Alliance) is greater Portland's Chamber of Commerce and represents the largest, most diverse network of businesses in the region. The Alliance advocates for business at all levels of government to support commerce, community health, and the region's overall prosperity. We represent over 2,100 members, from 27 counties, 13 states, and virtually every industry sector. More than 80% of our members are small businesses.

I am writing to express the Alliance's strong support for Oregon Supreme Court Justice Adrienne C. Nelson's nomination to serve on U.S. District Court for Oregon.

Justice Nelson launched her legal career as a public defender at Multnomah Defenders Inc. in 1996. Nelson then joined the private firm Bennett, Hartman, Morris and Kaplan LLP, where she practiced from 1999 to 2004.

She worked as a senior attorney and coordinator of Student Legal and Mediation Services at Alliance Board Member, Portland State University, until 2006 when former Gov. Ted Kulongoski appointed her to the Multnomah County Circuit Court. Since that time Nelson has served with distinction as a Circuit Court judge and most recently as an Oregon Supreme Court Justice since 2018.

Justice Nelson has received the Multnomah Bar Association's Award of Merit and the Oregon State Bar's Diversity and Inclusion Award. Last August, Nelson cut the ceremonial ribbon and officially opened Adrienne C. Nelson High School in Happy Valley.

Justice Nelson has always been open and accessible to all Oregonians. She has built a reputation for prudence, fairness, and as an advocate for the historically underserved, values shared with the Portland business community.

We urge your support for the nomination of Adrienne Nelson.

Warmest Regards,

Andrew Hoan President & CEO

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