A Communication from the Chief Legal Officers
Of the Following States:

Alabama ♦ Alaska ♦ Colorado ♦ Florida ♦ Hawaii ♦ Idaho ♦ Indiana ♦ Kansas
Michigan ♦ Nebraska ♦ Nevada ♦ North Dakota ♦ Ohio ♦ Pennsylvania
South Carolina ♦ Texas ♦ South Dakota ♦ Utah ♦ Virginia ♦ Washington

January 6, 2006

The Honorable Bill Frist
Majority Leader
United States Senate
509 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Harry Reid
Minority Leader
United States Senate
528 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Arlen Specter
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
433 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Judicial Confirmation of Judge Samuel A. Alito, Jr., to the Supreme Court of the United States.

Dear Majority Leader Frist, Minority Leader Reid, Chairman Specter, and Ranking Member Leahy:

We, the undersigned Attorneys General of our respective states, are writing in support of the confirmation of Judge Samuel A. Alito, Jr., to serve as an Associate Justice on the Supreme Court of the United States

We are confident that Judge Alito will bring to the Court not only years of legal experience and judicial temperament, but also modesty and great personal character.

We reflect diverse views and constituencies and are united in our belief that Judge Alito will be an outstanding Supreme Court Justice and should be confirmed by the United States Senate.

As the Senate prepares for the confirmation process of Judge Alito, it is important to look beyond partisan politics and ideology and focus on the judicial experience of this extremely well qualified nominee. Judge Alito has served the United States as an Assistant to the Solicitor General, as a United States Attorney, and for the past 15 years, as a Judge on the Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

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Judge Alito's record on the Third Circuit Court of Appeals demonstrates judicial restraint. He has proven that he seeks to apply the law and does not legislate from the bench. Judge Alito's judgments while on the bench have relied on legal precedent and current law, and he has a long-standing reputation for being both tough and fair. In short, Judge Alito represents the best of the federal bench and we believe he will be an excellent Supreme Court Justice.

We urge the Senate to hold an up or down vote and confirm Judge Alito.

Sincerely,

John W. Suthers
Attorney General of Colorado

Tom Corbett
Attorney General of Pennsylvania

Troy King
Attorney General of Alabama

David W. Márquez
Attorney General of Alaska

Charlie Crist
Attorney General of Florida

Mark J. Bennett
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Judith Williams Jagdmann
Attorney General of Virginia

Rob McKenna
Attorney General of Washington