



COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO

LUIS G. FORTUÑO
GOVERNOR

May 26, 2009

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman, Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
433 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I write to express my support for the nomination of Judge Sonia Sotomayor as Associate Justice on the U.S. Supreme Court. Judge Sotomayor's nomination as the first Puerto Rican to serve on the nation's High Court is a powerful recognition of the contributions and capacity of the people of Puerto Rico, as well as the Nation's entire Hispanic-origin population.

As President Obama pointed out upon announcing this nomination, Judge Sotomayor possesses more judicial experience than any of the Court's current justices had upon entering the Nation's highest judicial body. Moreover, throughout her career, Judge Sotomayor has shown herself to be a first rate jurist, approaching the cases before her with an open mind and steadfast commitment to fairness.

It is also important to take note of the fact that in view of her track record of impartiality and her commitment to making decisions based on the law and the Constitution, Judge Sotomayor has enjoyed exceptional bipartisan support throughout her career. As you know, in 1991 President George H.W. Bush

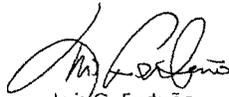
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nominated her to serve as U.S. District Court Judge for the Southern District of New York. Subsequently, in 1998, President Bill Clinton tapped Judge Sotomayor for her current post as Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

In light of all these considerations, I urge you and your colleagues to proceed to approve her nomination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Luis G. Fortuño". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Luis G. Fortuño
c: Hon. Harry Reid