



Congress of Racial Equality

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July 17, 2009

Hon. Ben Cardin
Member, U.S. Senate
509 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cardin:

I am writing on behalf of Judge Sonia Maria Sotomayor. Judge Sotomayor currently serves on the United States Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit. President Barack Obama has nominated Judge Sotomayor to replace retiring Justice David Souter on the United States Supreme Court. Her appointment to the Supreme Court is being considered by the Senate Judiciary Committee before being presented to the full Senate for a vote. If confirmed, she will be the first Hispanic Supreme Court Justice.

The Congress of Racial Equality had the opportunity to appear before Judge Sotomayor in a civil case several years ago. We found her to be intelligent, knowledgeable of the issues and pertinent laws, focused on the details of the case, and fair and balanced in her rulings. She demonstrated extraordinary judicial temperament and excellent mediation skills in guiding the parties in our case to a just resolution.

Our experience with Judge Sotomayor left us with the sense that some day she would be called upon to serve our country's judicial system in a higher capacity. We are overjoyed and excited that such a day has come and we urge you to accept the nomination and vote to confirm her appointment to the United States Supreme Court as expeditiously as possible.

Her appointment to the Supreme Court will bring the court closer to an accurate representation of the racial profile of our country. Hispanics now comprise close to 15% of the American population. They should have a seat on the nation's highest court and Judge Sotomayor is well suited to serve in that capacity.

Please include our endorsement of Judge Sotomayor in the official record of the Senate Judiciary Committee hearings and publicize it in anyway that you believe will help to guarantee her confirmation and appointment to the United States Supreme Court.

Sincerely,

George Holmes

George W. Holmes
Executive Director & Chief Operating Officer
CORE-Congress of Racial Equality