



National Council of Jewish Women

New York Office
475 Riverside Drive, Suite 520
New York, NY 10115
Tel 212 645 4048
Fax 212 645 7466
Email ncjw@ncjw.org

Washington Office
1707 L Street, NW Suite 910
Washington, DC 20036-4204
Tel 202 396 2388
Fax 202 331 7792
Email wacton@ncjw.org

Israel Office
NCJW Research Institute for
Innovation in Education, Room 267
Hebrew University, Mt. Scopus
Jerusalem, Israel 91905
Tel 972 2 5882 206
Fax 972 2 5813 264
Email info@ncjw.org
Web www.ncjw.org

July 13, 2009

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

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Member, Senate Judiciary Committee
335 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators:

I am writing on behalf of the 90,000 members and supporters of the National Council of Jewish Women, who are deeply committed to ensuring that Supreme Court justices are fair and preserve and uphold our fundamental constitutional rights, including our right to reproductive freedom. In this spirit, we ask you to give full, fair, and timely consideration to the nomination of Judge Sonia Sotomayor to the court.

For the Senate, the process of exercising its constitutional duty to advise and consent to the nomination of members of the US Supreme Court is of foremost importance. Of all the acts the Senate may perform, the confirmation of a nominee to the Supreme Court will have the most long-lasting effect. We urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to examine the record of Judge Sotomayor with due diligence that focuses on her record and does not seek to obstruct her confirmation merely to make a political point.

Judge Sotomayor brings more judicial experience than any other nominee for the court in the last 100 years. She also brings the perspective of a local prosecutor and that of a litigator in private practice on intellectual property issues. She had a stellar academic record both during her years at Princeton and at Yale Law School. All of these were achieved with the support of a family of modest means and by dint of her own talent and hard work.

Judge Sotomayor's record on the bench is one of moderation and respect for the law. She has won bipartisan support from colleagues who know her from her various roles prior to and after joining the USA Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. She deserves a thorough airing of her record, carried out by the Senate with due regard for the dignity of the office to which she is nominated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy Ratzan".

Nancy Ratzan
Cc: Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee