NASW
National Association of Social Workers
...the power of social work

November 18, 2005

The Honorable Arlen Specter
Chair, Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Specter:

The National Association of Social Workers, Inc. ("NASW") submits its position statement regarding the nomination of Judge Samuel A. Alito, Jr., to the United States Supreme Court. NASW calls for a thorough and deliberative confirmation process where Judge Alito can demonstrate his commitment to constitutional protections for women's health and reproductive rights and to the significant progress that has been made in civil rights and liberties over the past half-century.

NASW, a nonprofit professional association with over 153,000 members, is the largest membership association of social workers in the world. The attached Statement articulates in more detail NASW's position supporting the nomination of qualified judges who reflect the demographic diversity of the United States and the recognition and protection of an individual's unimpeded access to family planning and reproductive health services, including abortion services, as a fundamental human right. In addition, NASW is concerned about losing the gains in civil liberties and social justice obtained through the courts during the last four decades.

Based on these concerns and the information that exists regarding his professional record, NASW opposes the nomination of Judge Samuel A. Alito, Jr., to the Supreme Court of the United States. Please see the attached document for NASW's complete recommendations concerning the confirmation of Judge Alito.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth J. Clark

Elizabeth J. Clark, PhD, ACSW, MPH
Executive Director

cc: Judiciary Committee Members

Enclosure: Position Statement

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