



Americans for Democratic Action

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Where it's more than just politics. It's about taking a stand.

July 10, 2009

Dear Senator:

On behalf of Americans for Democratic Action, (ADA), we write to support the nomination of Judge Sonia Sotomayor to be an Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court. She is a brilliant jurist who, in her distinguished career, has worked at almost every level of our judicial system - as a prosecutor, litigator, trial court and appellate judge - and would bring more federal judicial experience to the Supreme Court than any Justice in 100 years.

President Obama has stated that he sought someone with a sharp and independent mind, and a record of excellence and integrity. He wanted a nominee who rejects ideology and shares his deep respect for our nation's Constitutional values.

Upholding those Constitutional values requires more than just the intellectual ability to apply a legal rule to a set of facts. It requires a common sense understanding of how laws affect the daily realities of people's lives. Judge Sotomayor embodies those qualities.

As a trial judge, she earned a reputation as a sharp and fearless jurist who does not let powerful interests bully her into departing from the rule of law. In 1995, for example, Judge Sotomayor ended the baseball strike by issuing an injunction against major league baseball owners.

Judge Sotomayor served 11 years on the U.S. Court of Appeals and has participated in more than 3000 panel decisions. She has authored roughly 400 opinions, handling difficult issues of Constitutional law, complex procedural matters and lawsuits involving complicated business organizations.

In addition to her distinguished judicial service, Judge Sotomayor is a Lecturer at Columbia University Law School and was also an adjunct professor at New York University Law School until 2007.

Her life experience is an inspiring American story. Her three decade career provides Judge Sotomayor with unique qualifications to be the next Supreme Court Justice.

For these reasons, I urge you to vote for the confirmation of Judge Sonia Sotomayor to the U.S. Supreme Court before the August recess.

Sincerely,

Darryl H. Fagin

Legislative Director

President Richard Parker * Executive Committee Chair Allen Kukovich * Counsel Jack Blum * Treasurer Jim Clarke
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