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Chairman Patrick Leahy
Senate Judiciary Committee
226 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

July 11, 2009

Dear Chairman Leahy and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the members of Presente.org, we are writing to express our support for Judge Sonia Sotomayor and to urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to give her a speedy hearing and a positive confirmation. Presente.org is a national organization dedicated to empowering Latinos and our allies. We have been outraged by the racist and sexist smear campaign against Judge Sotomayor in recent months and demand that the Committee conduct a fair hearing based on her qualifications and experience.

More than 5,000 people signed the following petition, and you can see their names and comments below.

Dear Senate Judiciary Committee Members:

We are outraged by the smear campaign against Supreme Court nominee Judge Sonia Sotomayor. Instead of discussing her record, right-wing activists have sought to question Sotomayor's intelligence and temperament, and suggested that her racial identity will prevent her from ruling fairly. This thinly veiled racism and sexism is not only insulting to Sotomayor, it's an affront to anyone who believes that a nominee should be judged on her record, not her heritage or skin tone.

The reality is that Sotomayor is an accomplished judge who would start with more federal judicial experience than any Supreme Court justice in 100 years. In her more than 3,000 panel decisions and almost 400 opinions, she has consistently protected the rights of working Americans and become one of the nation's most respected legal minds. Sotomayor is not only a superbly qualified nominee; she is a powerful example of the American dream and knows how the law affects the daily lives of Americans.

I stand with Judge Sotomayor, and urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to give her nomination a speedy hearing and a positive confirmation.

Sincerely,

The Undersigned

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Thank you for your time. If you have any questions, please contact me at 510-841-1555 or via email at favianna@presente.org.

Sincerely yours,

Favianna Rodriguez
Co-founder
Presente.org