

REPUBLICAN NATIONAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION



September 4, 2018

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Chairman, United States Senate
Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member, United States Senate
Committee on the Judiciary
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Confirmation of Judge Brett Kavanaugh as Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein:

We are current and former women leaders of the Republican National Lawyers Association (RNLA). On behalf of the RNLA, we urge you to promptly confirm Judge Brett Kavanaugh as the next Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

As educated, professional women, we are often told that we should endorse the progressive policy agenda and support judges who will enact progressive policy changes from the bench and by not doing so, we are betraying our sex.

Nothing could be further from the truth. The policies and laws that best protect the rights of women are the policies and laws that protect the rights of all people. Therefore, the type of judge who best protects the rights of women is the type of judge who protects the rights of all people who come before his or her court by interpreting statutes and regulations as written, according to the text of the Constitution, with respect for the proper role of the courts in our system of separation of powers.

Judge Kavanaugh is precisely this type of judge. Throughout his twelve years on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, he has consistently evaluated the text of the relevant legal authorities and applied them to the facts in the case. He has done so even when the outcome of the case was one that he personally would not have chosen. It is clear in Judge Kavanaugh's extensive record that he understands his role of as that of judge, not policymaker.

In addition to his impressive record, Judge Kavanaugh is the son of a woman lawyer and has been a mentor to women lawyers, hiring women as 25 of his 48 law clerks. Twenty-one of his women clerks went on to clerk at the Supreme Court. As his women clerks noted in a letter to you, they had "uniformly positive experiences with the Judge as a boss on issues of gender and equality in the workplace." This kind of mentorship is vital to helping young women attorneys succeed in our chosen profession.

Judge Kavanaugh has demonstrated his durable commitment to the rule of law and sought to interpret the Constitution and the law impartially, and he should receive the support of Americans of all political and ideological beliefs.

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Instead, he has been attacked for political gain, and even more bizarrely, attacked for being an enemy of women. This not only degrades the civil discourse in our country and undermines the role of the judiciary in our constitutional system but also wrongly uses women as partisan pawns. These attacks on Judge Kavanaugh by liberals and Democrats have belittled the role and individual beliefs and achievements of women, while ignoring the very real contribution that Judge Kavanaugh has made in advancing the careers of women attorneys.

As Republican women lawyers, we strongly support the nomination of Judge Brett Kavanaugh to be the next Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, and we encourage the Judiciary Committee, and the entire Senate, to promptly confirm him.

Sincerely,

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