



The Office of Secretary of State

Brian P. Kemp
SECRETARY OF STATE

August 2, 2018

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Diane Feinstein
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Senator Feinstein,

I wrote to you earlier this year in support of then Justice Britt Grant, now Judge Britt Grant on the Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. Today, I write to urge your confirmation of one of her mentors, Judge Brett Kavanaugh, to the Supreme Court of the United States.

Judge Kavanaugh's nomination continues President Trump's track record of appointing excellent judges who will interpret the law as it is written, not based on their particular policy preferences. In remarks before George Mason University's Antonin Scalia Law School in June of 2016, Judge Kavanaugh shows that he has a clear understanding of the proper role of a judge:

The judge's job is interpret the law, not to make the law or make policy. So read the words of the statute as written. Read the text of the Constitution as written, mindful of history and tradition. Don't make up new constitutional rights that are not in the text of the Constitution. Don't shy away from enforcing constitutional rights that are in the text of the Constitution.

This understanding, coupled with Judge Kavanaugh's impressive credentials, compels the Senate's bipartisan support of his nomination.

During his time on the Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, the "Second Highest Court in the Land," Judge Kavanaugh earned distinction as a thought leader in American jurisprudence. Over a dozen times, the Supreme Court has fully endorsed his opinions, including several dissenting opinions, which ultimately became the law of the land. Judge Kavanaugh's opinions are

thoughtful, clearly written, and cited by distinguished members of the bench around the country. He recognizes that judicial opinions, in addition to being legally and logically accurate, must be readable and understandable to individuals from all walks of life.

Judge Kavanaugh's impeccable legal credentials cannot be overstated. After graduating from Yale Law School where he carefully honed his legal writing as an editor on the Notes Committee of the *Yale Law Journal*, Judge Kavanaugh clerked for Justice Anthony Kennedy on the U.S. Supreme Court. Currently, he teaches aspiring legal scholars at Harvard Law School, where he was hired by none other than Justice Elena Kagan. It is impossible to fully outline all of his professional accomplishments, but simply put, Judge Kavanaugh's record demonstrates the requisite intellectual horsepower, writing ability, work ethic, and collegiality to serve us well on the Supreme Court.

Additionally, Judge Kavanaugh exhibits all of the personal qualities that we must demand from our Supreme Court justices. He prioritizes his faith and family, raising two school-aged children with his wife, Ashley, and stands as a pillar in his community. In all circumstances, he exudes civility and respect for others. He is a man of unquestionable integrity and values.

Throughout his career, Judge Kavanaugh has built consensus, decided cases based on fact and law with no regard for his personal preferences, and shown enduring respect for the text, structure, and authority of our Constitution. I strongly urge Judge Kavanaugh's timely confirmation to serve on the Supreme Court of the United States. As always, I am at your service.

Sincerely,



Brian P. Kemp