

William H. Hurd
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July 23, 2021

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Chairman
Senate Committee on the Judiciary
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on the Judiciary
Washington, DC 20510

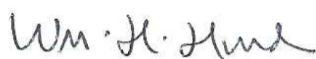
Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

As the first Solicitor General of Virginia (appointed by a Republican), I write to express my enthusiastic support for the incumbent Solicitor General of Virginia, Toby J. Heytens, who has been nominated by President Joe Biden for a seat on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit.

You already know of Mr. Heytens' distinguished career in the law, including his clerkship for Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, his professorships at Cornell Law School and the University of Virginia School of Law, and his service since 2018 as the chief appellate lawyer for the Commonwealth of Virginia. Having worked closely with Mr. Heytens in connection with presentations before the Virginia Bar Association, I can tell you from personal experience of his keen intellect, his deep knowledge of the law and his unfailing good humor. He would be an excellent judge and well-suited to continue both the intellectual strength and collegiality that has long-characterized the Fourth Circuit.

Although Mr. Heytens and I come from different sides of the political spectrum, I am confident that he is a superb choice to fill the seat now being vacated by Judge Barbara Milano Keenan.

Sincerely,



William H. Hurd
Former Solicitor General of Virginia (1999-2004)