

March 18, 2022

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington DC 20510

Re: Nomination of Ketanji Brown Jackson to the Supreme Court of the United States

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McConnell, Chairman Durbin, and Ranking Member Grassley:

We are Black women who power our economy as business owners, entrepreneurs, and job creators. We help build our communities by operating in underserved markets, and we create value for investors while upholding our values. Upon this historic nomination, we write in support of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson and urge you to grant her fair consideration and a quick confirmation to the Supreme Court of the United States.

Judge Jackson is an exemplar of the legal profession with a deep commitment to equal justice under the law. Her confirmation by the United States Senate to the U.S. Sentencing Commission and the D.C. Circuit also demonstrates that a bipartisan number of Senators support her record. Her confirmation would be an inspiration to Black women and signal to more than the judicial community that we are inching closer to justice for all.

Throughout history, Black women—despite being defined as less than human—fought for justice through the courts. Defining moments of American jurisprudence such as when an enslaved Black woman sought her freedom to the first Black woman who won admission to the bar dot our history and paved the path for when Black women lawyers would fight for desegregating schools and women’s equality. Yet, with all of these accomplishments, a Black woman has yet to reach the highest federal court in the country. You have the power to end that racist legacy with your vote to support Judge Jackson.

Her nomination is about more than just the judicial system, it is about economic justice. Black women helped to build this economy and are central to our economic power. We, along with all Americans, deserve representation and diversity at all levels of government and in our economy. We know that giving Black women a seat at powerful tables helps to give others an insight into the discrimination that is too often experienced by our community. According to Citigroup, \$13 trillion was lost in potential business revenue because of discriminatory lending to Black entrepreneurs, with an estimated 6.1 million jobs not generated as a result.

From supportive policy to representative leadership, it is critical that we work together to build an economy and systems that reflect America’s promise. Systemic racism and discrimination have interfered with and curtailed opportunities for Black people to participate fully in local, regional, and global markets, so much so that it’s estimated the Black-white wealth gap costs the economy \$1 trillion to \$1.5

trillion per year. The disadvantage in wealth can have multiplier effects on the success of a business. Black adults are more likely to be unemployed, and Black businesses are much more likely to hire Black workers. Fostering the growth of Black businesses and leaders can help accelerate employment and the development of communities. As laborers and CEOs, we believe this seat has the power to set a shining example that could help to change the diversity of CEO's, boards rooms, and capital funds.

We urge the Senate to promptly confirm Judge Jackson to the Supreme Court.

Sincerely yours,

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