

July 29, 2024

The Honorable Dick Durbin, Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Lindsey Graham, Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: *Nomination of Ryan Y. Park for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit*

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham,

As a bipartisan group of current and former state Solicitors General, we are pleased to write in support of Ryan Y. Park's nomination to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit.

Each of us has had the opportunity to collaborate with Mr. Park, who became Deputy Solicitor General of North Carolina in 2017 and Solicitor General in 2020. The signatories to this letter have a wide variety of political and jurisprudential views. Some of the undersigned have even litigated on opposite sides of Mr. Park. But our experience with Mr. Park makes each of us confident that he is highly qualified to serve on the Fourth Circuit.

We know that Mr. Park is qualified for this position through our experience serving alongside him. The role of state Solicitor General involves briefing and arguing cases at the U.S. Supreme Court, in the states' highest courts, and—as is most relevant here—the federal courts of appeals. That experience is extremely valuable for any jurist, requiring tremendous intellect and an even-keeled temperament. But these arguments are only part of a Solicitor General's work. Among other duties, state Solicitors General also work with counterparts in other states on cases of mutual interest and lead their offices' assessment of whether to write or join multistate amicus briefs. It is in this context that we know Mr. Park's work best.

In our work together, Mr. Park has displayed the legal acumen, temperament, and experience necessary to excel as an appellate judge. Collegiality and collaboration have been hallmarks of his impressive appellate practice. He has spearheaded broad, bipartisan coalitions of states in several cases in the U.S. Supreme Court and elsewhere, working cooperatively with other jurisdictions in areas of shared interest. For example, in *Allen v. Cooper*, Mr. Park worked with West Virginia to recruit a broad coalition of 31 states to defend the principle of state sovereign immunity. In the Federal Circuit case *Micron v. Longhorn*, he also recently led a bipartisan coalition of 27 states supporting the Attorney General of Idaho and defending states' sovereign authority to punish patent trolls. Finally, Mr. Park also worked in partnership with Indiana over several years to lead amicus briefs supporting state and federal laws governing robocallers. In *Barr v. AAPC* and *Facebook v. Duguid*, for instance, he twice co-led bipartisan groups of more than 30 states in the U.S. Supreme Court to support the use of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991. Throughout this work,

Mr. Park has identified opportunities to bring states together. He has also produced briefs of the highest caliber, led multistate collaborations with professionalism, and acted with sound judgment.

In sum, we urge the Senate to confirm our capable and collaborative colleague. Although we serve or served as Solicitors General in diverse states and sometimes deeply disagree on legal issues or the correct result in any particular case, we are all confident that Mr. Park has the experience, intellect, and character necessary to be an excellent appellate judge.

Respectfully,

Joshua Bendor
Solicitor General of Arizona

Michael J. Mongan
Solicitor General of California

Shannon Stevenson
Solicitor General of Colorado

Eric R. Olson
Solicitor General of Colorado*

Frederick R. Yarger
Solicitor General of Colorado*

Joshua Perry
Solicitor General of Connecticut

Clare Kindall
Solicitor General of Connecticut*

Caroline S. Van Zile
Solicitor General for the District of Columbia

Jane Elinor Notz
Solicitor General of Illinois

Thomas M. Fisher
Solicitor General of Indiana*

Steven M. Sullivan
Solicitor General of Maryland*

David C. Kravitz
State Solicitor of Massachusetts

Liz Kramer
Solicitor General of Minnesota

Scott G. Stewart
Solicitor General of Mississippi

Jeremy Feigenbaum
Solicitor General of New Jersey

Barbara D. Underwood
Solicitor General of New York

Benjamin Flowers
Solicitor General of Ohio*

Mithun Mansinghani
Solicitor General of Oklahoma*

Paul S. Swedlund
Solicitor General of South Dakota

Jonathan Rose
Solicitor General of Vermont

Michelle Kallen
Solicitor General of Virginia*

Noah Guzzo Purcell
Solicitor General of Washington

Lindsay See
Solicitor General of West Virginia*

*Denotes former Solicitor General or State Solicitor.

All titles are listed for identification only. Signatories write in their personal capacity.