

**QUESTIONS FOR THE RECORD
RACHEL L. BRAND
NOMINEE TO BE ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY GENERAL**

SENATOR AMY KLOBUCHAR

1. Voting Rights

[To Ms. Brand]: As Ranking Member of the Rules Committee, I want to address the role of the Justice Department in protecting voters' access to the ballot box. This issue is important to me, as my state has a long tradition of high voter turnout—with the highest statewide rate this past election.

The Voting Section of the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division has a strong history of upholding the Voting Rights Act, and is currently litigating Voting Rights Act enforcement cases challenging discriminatory voting laws. In two of these cases, the Fourth and Fifth Circuit Courts of Appeals found that voter ID laws in North Carolina and Texas, respectively, were discriminatory and violated the Voting Rights Act.

- As you are aware, the Justice Department recently withdrew its claim that Texas enacted voter ID restrictions with discriminatory intent. Can you comment on this issue?

- What would be your priorities for the Civil Rights Division if you are confirmed?

RESPONSE: If I am confirmed as Associate Attorney General, I will supervise many components of the Department of Justice, including the Civil Rights Division. I will work with the subject matter experts in each of those components to develop their goals and priorities. If confirmed, I will not come into my role as Associate Attorney General with a pre-conceived agenda for any of those components, other than to ensure that they have the resources they need to do their jobs well and to ensure that they undertake investigations and litigation based on a full, fair, and open-minded review of the facts and a serious and impartial analysis of the law. With respect to the specific case referenced in the question, I have not been involved in it and had no role in formulating the Department's position. Because that case involves pending litigation, it would not be appropriate for me to comment on it.