

September 4, 2023

Senator Richard Durbin
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Lindsey Graham
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham,

I am writing this letter in support of The Judicial Nomination of Judge Eumi Lee.

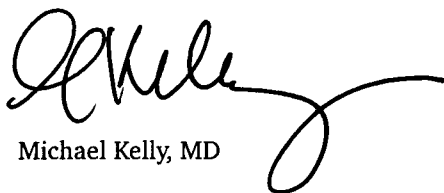
As an introduction, I was born and raised in Knoxville, Tennessee attending Tyson Middle School, West High School, and UT KNOXville. I completed medical school and surgical residency at UT in Memphis. I then spent a single year away from Tennessee at the Mayo Clinic for fellowship. I promptly returned to Knoxville to begin practice in 2004 where I have been since. I started practice at Saint Mary's Hospital and often interacted with now Tennessee State Senator Dr. Richard Briggs.

I have known Judge Eumi for over 35 years and we remain close friends today. Eumi and I quickly became close friends during high school because of our shared loves of soccer and the violin. I knew Eumi to be always vocal about justice and fairness, particularly regarding those who were intimidated or bullied. She was firm, honest, and never hesitated to rush to their support on any subject of debate. Her pursuit of a career in law of course now makes perfect sense and her continued accolades in the field strike me with little surprise.

Eumi has also always been very proud to be from East Tennessee. The people here are hard working and salt of the earth. They are unpretentious and dependable. These are the very people from whom she is passionate about helping. When we speak, she always expresses desire to come back to Tennessee as we share the same love for the land and people.

I am extremely confident in Judge Eumi's character and capability. She would be an incredible asset to any office.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Kelly", with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Michael Kelly, MD

