

January 3, 2025

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Letter of support by current and former states solicitors general for the nomination of D. John Sauer for Solicitor General of the United States

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

President Trump chose wisely when he nominated D. John Sauer to serve as Solicitor General of the United States. We, a group of past and present state solicitors general, submit this letter to urge John's confirmation.

All of us know John's abilities because we worked alongside him. State solicitors general represent their States in courts across the country—often, though not exclusively, appellate courts, including the Supreme Court of the United States. Sometimes, those cases involve constitutional issues of great public interest. John, for example, argued and won *Bucklew v. Precythe*, a pathmarking Eighth Amendment case, before the Supreme Court of the United States. More often, however, solicitors general must master and argue complex legal issues in obscure areas of law. John, for example, litigated *Myron Green Corporation v. Director of Revenue* in the Missouri Supreme Court. That case presented the question whether sales tax was owed on food sold to the public at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City's on-site cafeteria. (John prevailed in that case, too.)

Because of the diverse subject matter with which state solicitors general work, succeeding in that role requires expertise on constitutional issues and an ability to quickly master never-before-encountered topics. John possesses these skills in spades. He is a brilliant, principled, diligent attorney. Despite working with a team much smaller than the one he will have at the Department of Justice, John churned out high-quality briefs on a wide array of issues with incredible speed. His oral arguments are equally impressive. Indeed, he has never lost

a case he argued before the Supreme Court of the United States, something few of us can say.

The job of Solicitor General of the United States demands the same skills John has already proven himself to possess. As such, the Senate can be confident that he will skillfully represent the United States before the High Court, faithfully defending the Constitution and the laws of the United States along the way.

The Senate should confirm John Sauer without hesitation.

Sincerely,

Ben Aguiñaga (Solicitor General of Louisiana)

James A. Barta (Solicitor General of Indiana)

Nicholas J. Bronni (Solicitor General of Arkansas, 2018-2024)

James A. Campbell (Solicitor General of Nebraska, 2020-2023)

Robert D. Cook (Solicitor General of South Carolina)

Christian B. Corrigan (Solicitor General of Montana)

David Dewhirst (Solicitor General of Montana, 2021-2022)

Josh Divine (Solicitor General of Missouri)

Dominic E. Draye (Solicitor General of Arizona, 2017-2019)

Andrew N. Ferguson (Solicitor General of Virginia, 2022-2024)

Thomas M. Fisher (Solicitor General of Indiana, 2005-2023)

Benjamin M. Flowers (Solicitor General of Ohio, 2019-2023)

Garry M. Gaskins, II (Solicitor General of Oklahoma)

Eric J. Hamilton (Solicitor General of Nebraska)

Melissa Holyoak (Solicitor General of Utah, 2020-2024)

Scott A. Keller (Solicitor General of Texas, 2015-2018)

Matthew F. Kuhn (Solicitor General of Kentucky)

Edmund LaCour (Solicitor General of Alabama)

Aaron D. Lindstrom (Solicitor General of Michigan, 2013-2019)

Mithun Mansinghani (Solicitor General of Oklahoma, 2017-2022)

S. Chad Meredith (Solicitor General of Kentucky, 2019-2021)

Liz Murrill (Louisiana Attorney General; Louisiana Solicitor General, 2016-2024)

Stephen J. Petranj (Solicitor General of Georgia)

Anthony J. Powell (Solicitor General of Kansas)

Brunn (Beau) Roysden (Solicitor General of Arizona, 2020-2022)

O.H. Skinner (Solicitor General of Arizona, (2019-2020)

Scott G. Stewart (Solicitor General of Mississippi)

Judd Stone (Solicitor General of Texas, 2021-2023)

Misha Tseytlin (Solicitor General of Wisconsin, 2015-2018)

Zach West (Solicitor General of Oklahoma, 2022-2023)

Henry C. Whitaker (Solicitor General of Florida)

Frederick R. Yarger (Solicitor General of Colorado, 2015-2018)