



THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

March 7, 2024

Dear Senator:

We write on behalf of America's mayors to support the nomination of Adeel A. Mangi to the United States Court of Appeals to the Third Circuit and urge you to vote for Mr. Mangi's confirmation when it comes up for a vote on the Senate floor.

While it is unusual for the U.S. Conference of Mayors to lend its support to a Circuit Court nominee, we feel that based on Mr. Mangi's outstanding background and experience, his commitment to issues of great importance to America's mayors, and the shameful way he was treated by several minority members of the Judiciary Committee, it is important for us to speak out in his favor at this time.

As a partner at Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler, Mr. Mangi has secured landmark legal victories and devoted thousands of hours to pro bono service throughout his career. That pro bono service has included extensive work upholding civil rights, protecting religious freedom, and fighting discrimination against Muslim communities.

In his hearing Mr. Mangi told the Judiciary Committee that he came to America to make his life and raise his family here because of "the tapestry and the mosaic of America" in which people of different religious backgrounds can come together and live in harmony working toward common goals. Through his pro bono work he has made it possible for organizations representing many different faiths to come together and present a common position to federal courts, including the Supreme Court.

Clearly, this is a difficult time in America. We are seeing shocking instances of hate and violent extremism occur throughout our nation. We have seen an increase in hate-based violence, harassment, xenophobic rhetoric, and discriminatory actions that target Black and Brown people, Asian Americans, Muslims, Jews, LGBTQ+ individuals, and others. Increasingly, acts of hate-fueled violence pose a dire threat to our democracy, our civic life, and our freedoms. Working in partnership with the Anti-Defamation League since 2017, The U.S. Conference of Mayors is committed to fighting hate, extremism, and bigotry and to promoting the fundamental principles of justice and equality on which our democracy is based.

The Islamophobic questioning directed at Mr. Mangi in his confirmation hearing is an example of the divisive rhetoric all too present in our nation today. By confirming his nomination, the Senate will make it possible for a preeminent lawyer with an impeccable career and credentials that more than prepare him for a lifetime position on our federal courts to join the Third Circuit. And the Senate also will make it clear that it will not tolerate Islamophobia or any kind of hateful or extremist rhetoric in this chamber or in this country.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Cochran". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Tom Cochran
CEO and Executive Director