

309 Lewis Street
Vermillion, SD 57069
May 31, 2021

Chair Dick Durbin
Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Ranking Member Chuck Grassley
Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chair Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley,

I write in my personal capacity to enthusiastically endorse Lauren J. King for the position of United States District Court Judge for the Western District of Washington. I am currently an Associate Professor at the University of South Dakota Knudson School of Law, where I specialize in Federal Indian Law. I have worked with Ms. King for several years both in my capacity as Chair (and Deputy Chair) of the Federal Bar Association's Indian Law Section and, from 2014 through 2019, in my capacity as an attorney practicing in federal district court in Washington.

For several years, beginning in 2018, Ms. King has served on the Planning Committee of the flagship Indian Law Conference of the Indian Law Section of the Federal Bar Association. As Chair (and as Deputy Chair) of the Section, I worked very closely with her. I and the other members of Section leadership were always extremely impressed with her professionalism, dedication, and high standards.

As noted above, I also worked with Ms. King between 2014 and 2019 when I served as an attorney for Muckleshoot Indian Tribe and practiced in federal court. During those five years, I worked with Ms. King, who represented Quileute Indian Tribe, at various points. We collaborated on briefs for sub-proceedings in *United States v. Washington*. Additionally, I observed Ms. King argue in court several times and participated in negotiations with her. Her expertise and attention to detail are legendary, and I have consistently been impressed with her work.

Another impressive aspect of Ms. King's career is that she has established herself as a legal expert in difficult subject areas beyond her main focus area of Federal Indian Law, such as Intellectual Property. Ms. King is fair-minded, highly intelligent, and has maintained the highest ethical standards throughout her career. She has the temperament and legal skills necessary to confront and resolve complex legal issues within the federal legal system. Of special importance, Ms. King's litigation research has always been thorough and complete, and her writing is clear, cogent and precise. Those personal standards will set the bar high for all

personnel who work for her and will help maintain the exceptional professional standards that are the hallmark of the United States District Courts.

Ms. King maintains the utmost integrity and professionalism in her work. She gives everything she sets out to do one hundred percent. She is highly respected in the legal profession and will make an excellent federal district court judge.

I strongly urge the Committee on the Judiciary to approve the nomination of the Lauren J. King to serve as a judge of the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ann E. Tweedy". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Ann E. Tweedy
Associate Professor