



March 18, 2022

The Honorable Dick Durbin  
Chairman  
Senate Judiciary Committee  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley  
Ranking Member  
Senate Judiciary Committee  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

MARY KAY HENRY  
International President

GERRY HUDSON  
International Secretary-Treasurer

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Executive Vice President

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LESLIE FRANE  
Executive Vice President

VALARIE LONG  
Executive Vice President

ROCIO SÁENZ  
Executive Vice President

Dear Chairman Durbin, Ranking Member Grassley and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

On behalf of the 2 million members of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) and the worker leaders in the Fight for \$15 and a Union, I write to express our very strong support for the confirmation of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson to the United States Supreme Court. SEIU members are committed to achieving a more just society where all workers are respected and valued, and we are confident that Judge Jackson's confirmation will bring us one step closer to achieving those goals.

Judge Jackson is an accomplished and experienced jurist with a bi-partisan reputation for excellence, fairness, and fidelity to the rule of law. Once confirmed, Judge Jackson will also be the first Black woman to serve on our nation's Supreme Court, which first opened its doors more than 230 years ago. Representation matters, and diversity is an important asset to our justice system. Judge Jackson's historic appointment will have a positive impact on working families now and for generations to come.

SEIU members understand the significance of Judge Jackson's nomination. For example, Joy Barnes, a woman of color and homecare provider in Virginia, sees Judge Jackson's nomination as a sign of hope for herself and other care providers who work in a field with so many Black and brown women who are overworked, underpaid, and often overlooked.

Barnes, a grandmother of six, says that seeing a Black woman seated on the Supreme Court will send the message that a change is happening in our country and will inspire future generations including her youngest granddaughter who is currently in college: "When we have someone like us on the bench, I can tell my grandbaby 'you see that woman.' You can be like her. There's no limit to what you can do."

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Judge Jackson will also bring professional diversity to the Supreme Court, and SEIU members know how important it is to have judges on the bench whose professional experiences reflect the great diversity of this nation. In particular, Judge Jackson's experiences on the U.S. Sentencing Commission and as a public defender will add much-needed perspective. The Supreme Court makes life and death decisions in criminal justice matters every year, yet there is not a single justice on the current Court with any criminal defense experience. That needs to change, and we are thrilled that Judge Jackson's confirmation will begin to make the change we need.

We are also confident that Judge Jackson will be fair, just, and faithful to the law in cases involving workers. In one of her most recent decisions, *American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO v. Federal Labor Relations Authority*, 25 F.4th 1 (D.C. Cir. 2022), Judge Jackson wrote for a unanimous panel in vindicating the rights of federal employees to bargain collectively over terms and conditions of their employment. And as a district court judge Judge Jackson issued an opinion in *AFL-CIO v. National Labor Relations Board*, 466 F. Supp. 3d 68 (D.D.C. 2020), order amended on reconsideration, 471 F. Supp. 3d 228 (D.D.C. 2020), where she set aside a rule promulgated by the last Administration that would have made it much more difficult for workers to form unions.

Because of these cases and others in her record, workers around the country know that Judge Jackson will make fair and principled decisions in matters that affect their rights. Maria Bernal, a working mother in the fast food industry in California, is one of many who feel strongly that the Supreme Court will be better with Judge Jackson as a member; she says: "I'm speaking on behalf of fast food workers across the nation, when asking US Senators to support the quick confirmation of Judge Jackson."

For all these reasons, SEIU strongly supports Judge Jackson's confirmation and urges the Senate to move quickly with respect to her nomination. As the Senate proceeds, SEIU members will join many others in watching to make sure that Judge Jackson is treated fairly and assessed on the basis of her accomplishments, character, and unquestionable qualifications—not on the basis of anything else. If you have any questions for SEIU related to this nomination, please contact Isaiah Wilson, SEIU's Senior Legislative Manager, at [isaiah.wilson@seiu.org](mailto:isaiah.wilson@seiu.org).

Sincerely,



Mary Kay Henry  
International President

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