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February 22, 2021

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin, Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley, Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

It is my great honor to write this letter, in my personal capacity, in strong and enthusiastic support of the confirmation of Judge Merrick Garland for the position of Attorney General of the United States. I have had the privilege of getting to know Judge Garland during the past decade in my role as the Chairman of the Board of the Legal Services Corporation.

As you know, the Legal Services Corporation is the largest funder of civil legal assistance in the country with 132 grantees and 880 offices in every U.S. Congressional district and territory. It has helped provide assistance to low-income Americans throughout the country, including domestic violence survivors, those battling against foreclosures/evictions, and those who have suffered from consumer harms. Judge Garland has spoken at, or attended, a number of Legal Services' public forums on access to justice and I have had the opportunity to hear him speak eloquently and forcefully about the need to make sure that our civil justice system is fairly accessible to all Americans, irrespective of their economic means. On these occasions, I have also been able to talk with him more generally about our justice system and the issues confronting so many of our citizenry as they try to navigate the system on their own.

Prior to that time, I knew of his significant service to our country in my professional life as a long-time partner of a major law firm, where I have practiced law since 1973. From his distinguished service as Chief Judge on

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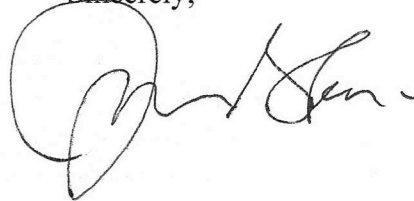
the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, and his prior service in the Department of Justice and the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia, it is abundantly clear that he appreciates the importance of the independence of the Department of Justice and very much understands that the fair accessibility of our justice system is essential to our country's respect for the rule of law. Judge Garland knows well the importance of this issue and speaks of it frequently as he did, in fact, just a few days ago, in his remarks accepting his nomination for this significant post.

We have also had the chance over the years to discuss my own father's service as the 71st U.S. Attorney General. I know that Judge Garland fully embraces the vision my father, Edward H. Levi, had for the United States Department of Justice and for the administration of justice in our country.

When my father gave his farewell address in January of 1977 in the Great Hall of the Department, he thanked the men and women of the Department and in so doing, observed that "we have shown that the administration of justice can be fair, can be effective, can be nonpartisan. These are goals which can never be won for all time, they must always be won anew. I know you will be steadfast in your adherence to them." Judge Garland clearly embraces those principles and, I have no doubt, will bring them with him to his leadership of the Department of Justice.

It is a privilege to support Judge Merrick Garland's nomination as the Attorney General of the United States, and I do so without reservation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John G. Levi". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, circular initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.