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

The Honorable Lindsey Graham Ranking Member Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham,

We, Past Presidents of the New Hampshire Bar Association, write to urge the United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary to confirm Michael A. Delaney as a judge to the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. Mr. Delaney is exceedingly qualified and has the professional and ethical commitment we regard for members of the judicial branch. His intellectual ability and dedication to the Rule of Law make him an excellent candidate for this judicial position.

An independent and impartial judiciary has been a fundamental principle in the development of our country. Placing people on the bench who are fair, knowledgeable, and impartial is vitally important. The cornerstone and essence of our democracy is safeguarding that judicial decisions are based on the rule of law and free from bias, improper outside influence, and partisanship.

As members of the New Hampshire Bar, we have all known, worked with, or otherwise observed Mr. Delaney for years. He has an excellent legal background and has had a wide range of legal experience in public service and private practice and in civil, administrative, and criminal matters. This expansive array of experience shows the respect and confidence people have for Mr. Delaney and his learned ability. His strong commitment to the public is shown through his time as Attorney General and as an attorney in that office. He treats people fairly and respects and advances people of diverse backgrounds as he works within the system of justice and in the community at large. Mr. Delaney's contributions are many and he has dedicated efforts to the community, the profession, and with the civil legal services in New Hampshire in working to help those who are indigent receive needed legal assistance in our state.

We know Mr. Delaney has the professionalism, ethics, temperament, and integrity that make him a well-qualified judge. He is hardworking and his record of service has been at a sustained level. As leaders of the Bar, we can attest to the high regard members of the bench and bar have for Mr. Delaney.

## We urge your support of his confirmation.

Philip R. Waystack, Jr. Bruce W. Felmly Fred L. Potter Walter L. Mitchell Randall Foss Cooper Richard Y. Uchida L. Jonathan Ross Edward D. Philpot, Jr. Peter Edward Hutchins Martha Van Oot

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