

September 9, 2021

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Room S-221, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Room S-230, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20510

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

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

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McConnell, Chair Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

I write in support of the nomination of Vermont Supreme Court Justice Beth Robinson to serve on the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

I served with the Vermont Judiciary for more than two decades, including 13 years on the trial bench (1992-2005) before Gov. James Douglas appointed me to the Vermont Supreme Court. I served with Justice Robinson from the time of her appointment in 2011 until my retirement in 2013, and again for several years in my post-retirement service. She was one of the most diligent and hard-working justices I have worked with.

Justice Robinson was always open and equally challenging to opposing arguments from litigants, and equally open to and considerate of opposing opinions during in-chambers discussion and deliberation. She was a fair, unbiased and congenial colleague. No ideologue, she was an exacting legal analyst. Reasonable jurists can disagree, and on the few occasions we did disagree, I would never describe Justice Robinson's position as unreasonable.

Justice Robinson will certainly prove to be, as she has on the Vermont Supreme Court, an excellent jurist on the Second Circuit Court of Appeals.

Sincerely,



Brian Burgess  
Associate Justice (retired)  
Vermont Supreme Court