



THE SUQUAMISH TRIBE

Office of Tribal Council

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May 19, 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

Re: Support for nomination of Lauren J. King as a federal judge in the Western District of Washington

Chair Durbin & Ranking Member Grassley:

I write on behalf of the Suquamish Tribe to urge the Committee on the Judiciary to approve the nomination of Lauren King to serve as a federal judge to the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington. President Biden's nomination of Lauren J. King on May 12, 2021 was an excellent selection based on her legal expertise, judicial experience, commitment to public service, and her perspective as a citizen of the Muscogee Creek Nation.

Only four Native Americans have ever been federal judges in the 230-year history of the U.S. courts. If confirmed by the Senate, Ms. King would be one of only three active Native American judges on the federal bench. Further, she would be the first Native American judge to serve on the federal bench in Washington State.

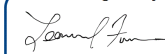
Ms. King has a strong background in federal Indian law, which includes serving as Chair of the Native American Law Practice Group at Foster Garvey, P.C.; serving as a Commissioner on the Washington State Gambling Commission; and having taught federal Indian law at the Seattle University School of Law. In addition to her expertise in Indian law, Ms. King's practice has also focused on key areas that comprise a significant portion of the federal court's docket, including intellectual property disputes, and complex commercial disputes.

Ms. King has demonstrated her commitment to Indian Country by her service to the Northwest Tribal Court Judges Association, Mvskoke Reservation Protection Commission, Seattle Indian Health Board, Northwest Indian Bar Association, and Washington State Bar Association Indian Law Section. In addition, she has served as a pro tem appellate judge for the Northwest Intertribal Court System, which adjudicates cases for its 24 member tribes.

The Suquamish Tribe urges to you to promptly consider and approve the nomination of Lauren J. King to serve as a federal judge on the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:



Leonard Forsman
Chairman
Suquamish Tribe