

**TOM COLEMAN  
FORMER MEMBER OF CONGRESS  
R-MISSOURI**

March 17, 2021

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

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Associate Attorney General Nominee Vanita Gupta

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

Please accept this letter in strong support of Vanita Gupta's nomination for U.S. Associate Attorney General.

As you know, I had the great honor of representing Missouri's 6th Congressional District in the United States House of Representatives for sixteen years as a Republican, along with the two of you before you joined the Senate. Prior to that, I served as a Republican State Representative in the Missouri House of Representatives. My government service began as an Assistant Attorney General in Missouri Attorney General John Danforth's office. I believe public service is a high calling, and one that demands leaders with the utmost integrity and honesty.

I came to know Vanita Gupta through our cross-partisan work together on the National Task Force on Election Crises, where she showed herself to be a strong leader and an honest and thoughtful person who is committed to election integrity and the rule of law. Our objective was to assure the nation had a free, fair, and secure election.

I saw that Ms. Gupta is a person who seeks the common good, without concern for partisan gamesmanship, and with a seriousness and competence that I believe will suit her well as the Associate Attorney General.

Indeed, even after observing her confirmation hearing, I was extremely impressed with her poise, humility, and candor. Ms. Gupta demonstrated during her hearing that with humility and good will, she will work to earn the trust of all Americans as Associate Attorney General.

Attorney General Garland similarly urged your Committee to recognize the importance of having Ms. Gupta's expertise and experience in the Justice Department, to help fulfill its mission of equal justice under law. Ms. Gupta has further pledged, just as she has done throughout her career, to work with an open mind and in good faith with anyone -- regardless of political stripes -- to advance justice in keeping with the Justice Department's mission.

As we move on as a country from the previous Administration, I urge you, my former colleagues, to recognize the truth with respect to Vanita Gupta: she is an ideal public servant. She possesses wisdom and an ability to work across partisan lines. She is committed, hard working, and humble. And she deeply loves this country, as I know each of you do as well.

I strongly urge you to please vote to confirm her to the position of Associate Attorney General.

Sincerely yours,

Tom Coleman