



Confederated Tribes and Bands  
of the Yakama Nation

Established by the  
Treaty of June 9, 1855

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June 3, 2021

Sent via Electronic Mail

Hon. Richard Durbin  
United States Senator  
Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Hon. Charles Grassley  
United States Senator  
Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**Re: Support For Confirmation Of Lauren King As United States District Court  
Judge For The Western District of Washington**

Dear Senator Durbin and Senator Grassley,

On behalf of the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation (“Yakama Nation”), I write to express the Yakama Nation’s strong support for the confirmation of Ms. Lauren King as a Judge for the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington. It is long overdue for the federal judiciary in Washington State to have Native representation like Ms. King. She has the background and experience to excel as a federal judge, but more importantly she has the heart to undertake these duties with a humility and compassion that will make Indian Country proud.

The Yakama Nation’s legal team has worked alongside Ms. King for years on various complex litigation matters implicating Native treaty rights in state and federal courts. Our attorneys report that Ms. King is extremely qualified to serve on the federal bench. In our mutual cases, she consistently demonstrated the strength of her advocacy skills, founded upon her diligence, discipline, and hard work. In inter-tribal settings amongst tribal attorneys, she took on leadership roles and brought insightful and effective legal recommendations to the group.

The United States District Court for the Western District of Washington is one of the most active courts for federal Indian law issues in the United States. It will be well served by having the knowledge and experience of a federal Indian law expert, both in education and in her Native identity, among its ranks. The Yakama Nation recommends and supports Ms. King’s confirmation to the federal judiciary without reservation.

Sincerely,

Delano Saluskin, Chairman  
Yakama Nation Tribal Council