



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 8952 • MADISON, WI 53708

March 22, 2016

Senator Ron Johnson
328 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Johnson,

We are writing today to ask that you give Judge Merrick Garland's nomination a fair hearing and a confirmation vote to be the next United State Supreme Court Justice. The Constitution requires your advice and consent, and it is your duty to give this accomplished jurist a hearing and an up-or-down vote on confirmation as soon as possible.

Judge Merrick Garland's record of public service is exemplary. Judge Garland has more judicial experience than any previous Supreme Court nominee in our nation's history, serving for nineteen years on the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals, and presiding as Chief Judge for three years. Judge Garland has long been recognized by both Democrats and Republicans as an outstanding judge who applies the law in a dispassionate way and without political considerations. Prior to his service on the bench, Judge Garland also served as an anti-terrorism prosecutor and brought Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh to justice. Many of your Republican colleagues have publically praised Judge Garland's excellent temperament, and previously voted to confirm Judge Garland to the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals. Senator Orrin Hatch described Judge Garland as "a consensus nominee" that all Senators should be able to agree on, and Judge Garland's wisdom as a jurist has also been praised by Chief Justice John Roberts. We believe that Judge Garland is an eminently qualified nominee. The best way to assess Judge Garland's qualifications is for the Senate to hold a hearing, and based on the findings of that hearing, take a vote.

Despite Judge Garland's eminent qualifications, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell is denying Judge Garland the courtesy of even a meeting regarding his nomination. Senator McConnell's decision to not even consider a nominee is historically unprecedented and would deprive the American people of a fully functioning Supreme Court.

You have indicated that you are willing to meet with Judge Merrick Garland. While meeting with Judge Garland is a positive first step, it does not fulfill your Constitutional mandate to act on Judge Merrick Garland's nomination. We ask that you do your job and urge Senator McConnell to allow hearings and an up-or-down vote on Judge Merrick Garland's nomination to proceed without delay.


Sincerely,


Cory Mason
Representative
66th Assembly District






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Peter Barca
Representative
64th Assembly District

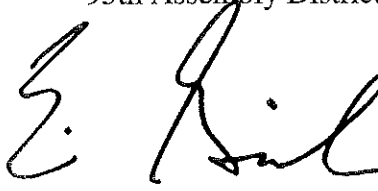
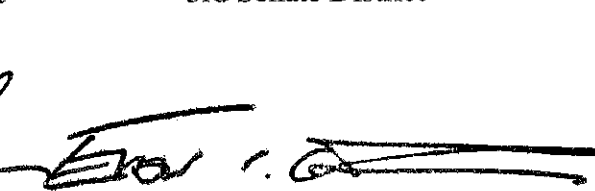

Mandela Barnes
Representative
11th Assembly District


Terese Berceau
Representative
77th Assembly District

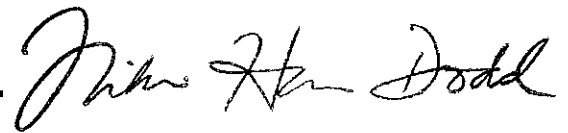
 
Jill Billings
Representative
95th Assembly District

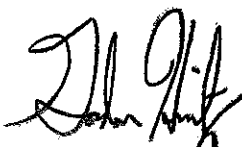
Tim Carpenter
Senator
3rd Senate District

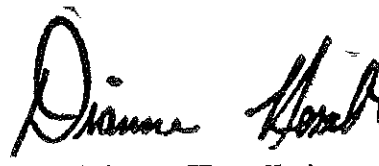

Chris Danou
Representative
92nd Assembly District

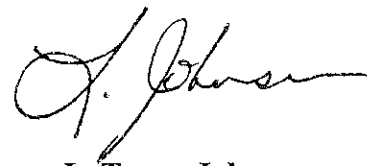
 
Eric Genrich
Representative
90th Assembly District

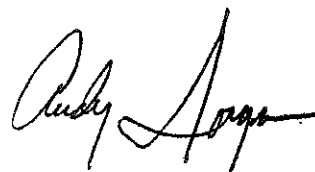
Evan Goyke
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18th Assembly District



Nikiya Harris Dodd
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6th Senate District



Gordon Hintz
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54th Assembly District


Dianne Hesselbein
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73rd Assembly District

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65th Assembly District

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80th Assembly district

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20th Assembly District

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Lena Taylor
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4th Senate District

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91st Assembly District



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