



NATIONAL CONSUMERS LEAGUE

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April 1, 2022

The Honorable Richard Durbin  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

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

RE: National Consumers League support for the confirmation of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley,

The National Consumers League writes today to urge members of the Senate Judiciary Committee to support the confirmation of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson as the next Associate Justice to the United States Supreme Court.

The National Consumers League is America's pioneering consumer and worker advocacy organization, founded in 1899 during the Progressive Era. We are at an urgent moment in our nation's history and the federal courts have become more important than ever. We turn to our courts to protect the interests of consumers and workers and others who are voiceless and who don't have the power of big corporations with virtually limitless resources.

We believe Judge Jackson’s experience as a federal public defender and her rulings in several important cases makes her uniquely qualified to understand the concerns of those who are underrepresented in our legal system. For example, Judge Jackson has shown that she understands the need for better labeling of consumer products<sup>1</sup> and has been responsive to the concerns of workers<sup>2</sup> and their families.<sup>3</sup>

Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson is highly qualified to serve on the Supreme Court. In her years on the bench as a federal district court and appellate court judge, Judge Jackson has proven to be one of the brightest legal minds in the country. Her character and qualifications have earned her bipartisan support in all of her past confirmations. Judge Jackson’s time as a public defender, her service on the U.S. Sentencing Commission and her balanced and thoughtful judicial philosophy are reflected in her substantially lower reversal rate than other federal district court judges.

Indeed, Judge Jackson’s rulings and background show that she is a mainstream jurist who will apply long-settled principles of constitutional law rather than pursue an ideological agenda.

Confirming Judge Jackson would also improve the Court’s perspective and credibility. The Supreme Court has never reflected the robust diversity of the United States, either demographically or in the lived experiences of its justices. Judge Jackson would be the first Black woman to sit on the Supreme Court in our republic’s 233-year history. Confirming

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<sup>1</sup> While sitting on the District Court, Judge Jackson decided *American Meat Institute v. USDA* relating to the USDA’s requirement of labeling of each package with the location where the animal was born, raised, and slaughtered. The American Meat Institute sued the Department for violating federal agriculture statutes, the Administrative Procedure Act, and the First Amendment. Judge Jackson reviewed the administrative challenges under the required reasonableness standard, finding that the regulation was reasonably related to the government’s interest in preventing consumer confusion. Judge Jackson also noted that the meat producers were conflating the burden on their finances with the protected freedom of speech.

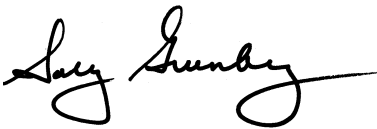
<sup>2</sup> Unite Here sought to enforce an arbitration award that defendant refused to comply with. The award had been granted in favor of Unite Here after the union brought a grievance and engaged in arbitration pursuant to their collective bargaining agreement. Judge Jackson found in favor of the union, also granting the union attorneys’ fees. (Source: <https://casetext.com/case/unite-here-local-23-v-il-creations-of-md-inc>)

<sup>3</sup> Jackson supported workers’ rights by invalidating attempts to limit collective bargaining in *AFGE, AFL-CIO v. Trump*; (Source: <https://casetext.com/case/am-fedn-of-govt-emps-v-trump>)

her would send a message that our courts serve everyone in the country, no matter their race or background.

The National Consumers League believes that Judge Jackson will be a stellar addition to the Supreme Court and, as with her district court and appeals court nominations, the Senate should overwhelmingly confirm her.

Sincerely



Sally Greenberg  
Executive Director  
National Consumers League



Joan Bray  
Chair, Board of Directors  
National Consumers League

cc: Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee