

STATEMENT

Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson is eminently qualified to serve on the Supreme Court of the United States. Indeed, she is as highly credentialed and experienced in the law as any nominee in history, having graduated from the Harvard Law School with honors, clerked at the Supreme Court, and served as a Federal Judge for almost a decade.

Republicans and Democrats alike should give their studied advice — and then their consent — to the President’s nomination.

Republicans, in particular, should vote to confirm Judge Jackson.

Republicans prematurely judged President Biden’s nominee when the President first announced he would nominate a black woman to the vacancy created by Justice Breyer’s retirement. The President knew at the time that there were any number of highly qualified black women on the lower federal courts from among whom he could choose -- including Judge Jackson -- and Republicans should have known that the President would nominate one of those supremely qualified black women to succeed Justice Breyer.

With the confirmations of Justices Gorsuch, Kavanaugh, and Barrett, the Republicans now have the comfortable majority on the Court that they have sought for four decades.

Republicans should vote to confirm Judge Jackson out of political calculation, even if they cannot bring themselves to confirm her out of political magnanimity, and then proudly take the deserved credit for their part in elevating the first black female jurist to the Supreme Court of the United States.

J. Michael Luttig
former Judge, United States Court of Appeals