

West Virginians Urge Sen. Manchin to Support Confirmation of Judge Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court of the United States

July 26, 2018

Dear Senator Manchin:

On behalf of thousands of West Virginians who deeply value our nation's Constitution, the undersigned organizations and officials write to urge your support for the swift confirmation of President Trump's outstanding nominee to the United States Supreme Court, Judge Brett Kavanaugh.

Judge Kavanaugh's nomination is the second time in recent years that Americans have had the historic opportunity to add a defender of the Constitution to the Supreme Court. Recent polling shows a large majority of West Virginians support President Trump's selection and want him confirmed. We are pleased you share their key criteria for supporting Judge Kavanaugh – whether he will follow, “the rule of law and the Constitution.” He has a proven track record of doing so. We are also pleased that you have listened to West Virginians and broken with your partisan leaders in the Senate by agreeing to meet with Judge Kavanaugh.

However, we—along with many concerned Mountaineers—consider any effort to obstruct this highly qualified nominee from being confirmed as a threat to deny West Virginians, and every American, an exemplary jurist in the mold of Justice Neil Gorsuch, whom you voted to confirm.

Hanging your support on how a judicial nominee would rule on any case which may come before the Court is inappropriate. Such politically-motivated rhetoric not only distorts the Court's role, but undermines the consideration of fundamental principles. The role of the Supreme Court is to interpret the law, not make policy. A nominee must be evaluated on his or her ability to practice judicial restraint devoid of political agenda, to interpret the law as written instead of legislating from the bench, and to defend the Constitution.

We strongly urge you to rise above those who are playing politics with Americans' constitutional rights and, instead, work to ensure those rights are safeguarded from judicial activism.

Together, on behalf of the majority of West Virginians, we encourage you to expedite Judge Kavanaugh's confirmation to the Supreme Court and urge your colleagues to do the same.

Sincerely,

Rep. David McKinley, P.E.
United States Congress,
West Virginia, First District

Rep. Alex Mooney
United States Congress,
West Virginia, Second
District

Rep. Evan Jenkins
United States Congress,
West Virginia, Third District

Hon. Kent Leonhardt
West Virginia Commissioner
of Agriculture

Hon. Mac Warner
West Virginia Secretary of
State

Hon. Mitch Carmichael,
West Virginia State Senate
President

Hon. Ryan Ferns,
West Virginia State Senate
Majority Leader

Hon. Bill Cole
Fmr. West Virginia State
Senate President

Hon. Mike Azinger,
West Virginia Senate, 10th
District

Hon. Patricia Rucker,
West Virginia State Senate,
16th District

Hon. Ed Gaunch
West Virginia State Senate,
8th District

Hon. Chanda Adkins,
West Virginia House of
Delegates, 31st District

Hon. Marty Gearheart,
West Virginia House of
Delegates, 27th District

Hon. Danny Hamrick,
West Virginia House of
Delegates, 48th District

Hon. Jason Harshbarger,
West Virginia House of
Delegates, 7th District

Hon. Joshua Higginbotham,
West Virginia House of
Delegates, 13th District

Hon. Amy Summers,
West Virginia House of
Delegates, 49th District

Hon. Jordan Hill,
West Virginia House of
Delegates, 41st District

Hon. Eric Householder,
West Virginia House of
Delegates, 64th District

Hon. Kayla Kessinger,
West Virginia House of
Delegates, 32nd District

Hon. Eric Nelson,
West Virginia House
of Delegates, 35th
District

Hon. Rupie Phillips,
West Virginia House of
Delegates, 24th District

Hon. Roger Romine,
West Virginia House of
Delegates, 6th District

Hon. Joe Statler,
West Virginia House of
Delegates, 51st District

Hon. Guy Ward,
West Virginia House of
Delegates, 50th District

Hon. Jill Upson
West Virginia House of
Delegates, 65th District

Hon. Steve Westfall
West Virginia House of
Delegates, 12th District

Jason Huffman,
West Virginia State Director
Americans for Prosperity

Grover Norquist, President
Americans for Tax Reform

Bryan Hoylman, President/
CEO
Associated Builders
and Contractors of
West Virginia

Roman Stauffer,
Executive Director
Citizens Against
Lawsuit Abuse - West
Virginia