



NAPABA



September 13, 2021

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: **Letter of Support for Jennifer Sung for the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit**

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

The National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA) together with the undersigned affiliated Asian Pacific American bar organizations, representing states within the jurisdiction of the Ninth Circuit, extend our strong support for the nomination of Jennifer Sung to serve on the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

NAPABA is the largest Asian Pacific American legal membership organization in the country, representing the interests of over 60,000 attorneys, judges, law professors, and law students and nearly 90 national, state, and local affiliate bar associations. Its members include solo practitioners, large firm lawyers, corporate counsel, legal services and non-profit attorneys, and lawyers serving at all levels of government. NAPABA is non-partisan and is the leading national voice for the Asian Pacific American legal profession.

Similar to NAPABA, the affiliated Asian Pacific American bar organization signatories are comprised of diverse members whose legal practices represent corporations, employers, individuals, municipalities, and a myriad of interests. Each of our organizations endorses candidates for judicial positions based on necessary professional qualifications and experience, as well as a demonstrated commitment to the community.

The Oregon Asian Pacific American Bar Association (OAPABA) has already interviewed and enthusiastically endorsed Member Sung for an appointment to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. OAPABA's recommendation was based not only on Member Sung's qualifications and experience, but on her current position as a member of the Oregon Labor Relations Board, where she sits on a panel with other members to hear appeals and specifically her ability to "neutrally apply the law to the appropriate facts, and issue opinions as justice requires."¹ Her role adjudicating disputes involving labor relations for an estimated 3,000 different Oregon employers and 250,000 workers in the public and private sector covered by collective bargaining laws situates her well for this judgeship.

Prior to her appointment to the Board, she was a partner at McKanna Bishop Joffe LLP in Portland. Ms. Sung is a graduate of Oberlin College and obtained her J.D. from Yale Law School. If confirmed, she will return to the Ninth Circuit having previously clerked for Judge Betty Fletcher on the Court of Appeals.

Ms. Sung is a member of OAPABA and was an active member of the Asian Pacific and Native American Law Students Association during law school, demonstrating her further commitment to her community. If confirmed, she would be only one of 11 AAPIs to serve out of a total of 179 authorized federal appellate court judges. Her diverse professional experience, reputation as a fair arbiter, and exceptional legal career demonstrate her strong qualification to serve as an appellate court judge.

Thank you for your consideration of our views and we urge Member Sung's swift confirmation.

Asian American Bar Association of the Greater Bay Area

Arizona Asian American Bar Association

Asian Bar Association of Washington

Asian Pacific American Bar Association Silicon Valley

Filipino Bar Association of Northern California

Filipino American Lawyers of San Diego

National Asian Pacific American Bar Association

National Asian Pacific American Bar Association - Hawaii

Orange County Asian American Bar Association

¹ Letter from Alex Naito, President OAPABA, to Senate Judiciary Committee (July 30, 2021)

Oregon Asian Pacific American Bar Association

South Asian Bar Association of Southern California

South Asian Bar Association of San Diego

Southern California Chinese Lawyers Association

Vietnamese American Bar Association of Southern California