The Judicial Nominations Process

and how YOU can have an impact

The President nominates judges
"by and with the advice and consent of the Senate."

GOVERNMENT

1. Judge/Justice retires, dies or is convicted on impeachment

2. President announces a nominee

3. Nominee referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee

4. Senate Judiciary Committee holds a hearing on the nominee

5. Judiciary Committee reports a "favorable recommendation," "unfavorable recommendation," or "no recommendation"

6. Senate debates nomination

7. Senate votes on the nominee

8. Confirmed judge/Justice takes his or her seat on the bench

YOU

Research the nominee!
Find out about his/her qualifications, background, and judicial philosophy. The following organizations can help: Religious Action Center (rac.org), Alliance for Justice (afj.org), Leadership Conference on Civil Rights (civilrights.org).

Write a Letter or Make a Phone Call to Members of the Judiciary Committee!
Let them know what you think about a particular nominee. Or, ask them to find out certain information during the hearings.

Write a Letter or Make a Phone Call to Your State's Senators!
Tell them how you want them to vote and justify your position using the background information that you have gathered.

Consider the Courts when you Vote for the President and your Senators!
Your vote helps determine who will make essential decisions about the federal bench.

Religious Action Center
of Reform Judaism

Senate Judiciary Committee, 111th Congress

Patrick Leahy, Chairman
D-Vermont

Herb Kohl
D-Wisconsin

Dianne Feinstein
D-California

Russell Feingold
D-Wisconsin

Charles Schumer
D-New York

Richard Durbin
D-Illinois

Benjamin Cardin
D-Maryland

Sheldon Whitehouse
D-Rhode Island

Amy Klobuchar
D-Minnesota

Edward Kaufman
D-Delaware

Arlen Specter
D-Pennsylvania

Al Franken
D-Minnesota

Jeff Sessions, Ranking Member
R-Alabama

Orrin Hatch
R-Utah

Charles Grassley
R-Iowa

Jon Kyl
R-Arizona

Lindsey Graham
R-South Carolina

John Cornyn
R-Texas

Tom Coburn
R-Oklahoma

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