

## YALE LAW ALUMNI AND STUDENTS IN SUPPORT OF JUDGE ALITO

The undersigned are alumni and students of Yale Law School who support the nomination of Judge Samuel Alito, a Yale Law School alumnus, to the Supreme Court.

Since graduating from Yale Law School in 1975, Samuel Alito has had a distinguished career in public service, both as a prosecutor at the Department of Justice and as a Judge on the Court of Appeals. Throughout that distinguished career, Judge Alito has exhibited high integrity, intelligence, and a sound judicial demeanor—the crucial characteristics of a great Justice. Nonetheless, there are special interest groups that are attacking Judge Alito only because of what they believe are Judge Alito's personal views on certain issues. Judge Alito has made clear, however, that it is not his personal views that will govern his decisions, but what the Constitution, statutes, and controlling prior decisions dictate.

In 1993, President Clinton nominated Ruth Bader Ginsburg to the Supreme Court. Justice Ginsburg's liberal views on many issues were well known, from her writings at Columbia where she taught, from her position as Director of the ACLU's Women's Rights Project, and from her decisions as a Judge on the Court of Appeals. Although most Republicans and conservative Senators strongly disagreed with Justice Ginsburg's views, the Republican-controlled Senate allowed her nomination to proceed to the floor on an up-or-down vote and then an overwhelming majority of Republican Senators voted in favor of her confirmation. Why? Because she exhibited high integrity, intelligence and a sound judicial demeanor, and, under our Constitution, the President is entitled to nominate Supreme Court justices.

Fairness and the integrity of our democratic system require that Judge Alito be treated no differently from how Justice Ginsburg was treated. Judge Alito deserves a fair hearing and a prompt vote in favor of his confirmation.

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