

FROM THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE MAJORITY STAFF

SUPPORT FOR GOODWIN LIU FROM NOTABLE REPUBLICANS NOMINEE TO THE NINTH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS

Goodwin Liu was first nominated on February 24, 2010, to fill a judicial emergency vacancy on the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. When confirmed, Goodwin Liu will become only the second active Asian Pacific American judge to serve on a federal appellate court. He will be the only Asian American in active service on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, whose jurisdiction is home to over 40 percent of the nation's Asian American population.

Professor Liu's nomination has received support from several notable conservative figures.

"[I]t is our privilege to speak to his qualifications and character, and to urge favorable action on his nomination in the discharge of your constitutional duties of advice and consent. In short, **Goodwin is a person of great intellect, accomplishment, and integrity, and he is exceptionally well-qualified to serve on the court of appeals.** The nation is fortunate that he is willing to leave academia to engage in this important form of public service." -- *Akhil Reed Amar and Kenneth W. Star, March 19, 2010*

"[I]f disagreement with Goodwin's scholarly work presents the kind of 'extraordinary circumstances' that justify a filibuster, then I fear we are on a path to endless confirmation gridlock. I don't agree with everything Goodwin has said or written. But **I am convinced, based on his record and my own experiences working with him, that he is thoughtful, fair-minded, and well-qualified to be an appellate judge.** There are no 'extraordinary circumstances' warranting a filibuster here." – *Brian W. Jones, Former General Counsel, U.S. Department of Education (2001-05), May 16, 2011*

"In fact [Goodwin Liu's] views are shared by many scholars, lawyers, and public officials from across the ideological spectrum.... A more accurate reading of Liu's analysis reveals simply **his commitment to the Constitution and to a fair criminal justice system.**" – *Former Congressman Bob Barr (R-Ga.), Atlanta Journal Constitution, April 12, 2010*

"Having worked on the confirmations of John Roberts and Samuel Alito as the chief White House ethics lawyer under President Bush, I've done my share of vetting judicial candidates and fighting the confirmation wars. I didn't know much about Liu before his nomination to the Ninth Circuit. But I became intrigued by the attention the nomination generated, and I wondered if his Republican critics were deploying the same tactics the Democrats had used to attack Republican nominees. They were. If anything, the attacks on Liu have been even more unfair than attacks on past nominees. Based on my own review of his record, **I believe it's not a close question that Liu is an outstanding nominee whose views fall well within the legal mainstream.** That conclusion is shared by leading conservatives who are familiar with Liu's record." – *Former Bush administration Counsel Richard Painter, Huffington Post, March 2, 2011*

"**Goodwin will bring scholarly distinction and a strong reputation for integrity, fair-mindedness, and collegiality to the Ninth Circuit.** Having served with Goodwin on a volunteer board at Stanford and as colleagues at UC Berkeley, I am not surprised that he has again been called to public service." – *Former Congressman Tom Campbell (R-Calif.), Press Release, February 24, 2010*

"In short, **Goodwin's strengths are exactly what I expect in a judge: objectivity, independence, collegiality, respect for differing views, sound judgment...**The confirmation of exceptionally qualified nominees like Goodwin should not be a partisan issue. I believe Goodwin deserves the support of Senators from both parties at the least, he deserves a timely up-or-down vote." – *Susan R. McCaw, former U.S. Ambassador to Austria under George W. Bush, March 11, 2011*

"Having reviewed several of his academic writings, **I find Prof. Liu to exhibit fresh, independent thinking and intellectual honesty.** He clearly possesses the scholarly credentials and experience to serve with distinction on this important court." – *Clint Bolick, Director, The Goldwater Institute, January 20, 2010*