

A Demand for Disclosure of Documents by John Roberts, Nominee for the Highest Court in America

Dear Senator Kennedy,

We are writing you because we are concerned that all deliberations regarding President George W. Bush's nomination of Judge John G. Roberts, Jr. to be Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court be made with the fully informed advice and consent of the United States Senate, as required under Article II of the United States Constitution. In order to make such a fully informed decision, the U.S. Senate must have access to all available documents authored by Judge Roberts, including documents he authored during his tenure as Deputy Solicitor General of the United States from 1989 to 1993.

As Deputy Solicitor General of the United States, Judge Roberts represented the people of the United States. It is absurd to argue, as the White House has done, that Judge Roberts' work during that time was privileged and that only the President of the United States may have access to it. The people of the United States have the right to access documents produced by one of their lawyers working for them at the United States Justice Department. If the President can view these documents, the U.S. Senate and the nation as a whole can and must view them as well.

Without access to such documents, the U.S. Senate will be unable to carry out its advice and consent duty under the Constitution with respect to this Supreme Court nominee. If these documents are not made available to the U.S. Senate and to the American public, we respectfully urge you to demand that the nomination process be suspended, using all available procedural means, until such time as all such documents necessary to make a fully informed decision are produced by Judge Roberts and the White House.

Sincerely,

National Lawyers Guild, Massachusetts Chapter
14 Beacon St., Suite 407, Boston, MA 02108

MassNOW

14 Linden St., Boston MA 02134

Greater Boston NOW

14 Linden St., Suite 220, Boston, MA 02134

Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action

18 Tremont St., Suite 320, Boston, MA 02108

Massachusetts Lesbian & Gay Bar Association

P.O. Box 9072, Boston, MA 02114

Brookline PeaceWorks

106 Beals St., Brookline, MA 02446

Life Center for Health and Complimentary Medicine

47 Main St., Orleans, MA 02653-2424

Massachusetts Coalition Against Election Fraud

Newton Democratic City Committee's Executive Committee

115 Lowell Ave., Newton, MA 02460

Progressive Democrats of America, Greater Boston Chapter

299 Parkland Ave., Lynn, MA 01905

Progressive Democrats of Cambridge

1643 Cambridge St., #52, Cambridge, MA 02138

Community Change

14 Beacon St., Suite 604, Boston, MA 02108