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Georgia Senate

Committees: Finance, Chairman Appropriations Health and Human Services Rules

Delegations: Atlanta/Fulton County, Chairman Cobb County

September 6, 2015

The Honorable David Perdue United States Senator 383 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Perdue,

I am writing to request that you as a member of the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee oppose the President's nomination of Georgia State Court Judge Dax Lopez to the federal bench in Georgia. Judicial appointees to the federal bench should be experienced and qualified for the court to which they are nominated. A judicial nominee should demonstrate a high degree of impartiality and a keen respect for the rule of law. As you know, when the nominee is a sitting judge then their actions and opinions must be closely scrutinized because these reflect their judgment, record for impartiality, judicial philosophy and temperament they would take to the federal bench.

Judge Lopez's record while he has been a judge is relevant. While on the State Court Judge Lopez chose to remain on the board of an organization, the Georgia Association of Latino Elected Officials, which lobbies and often advocates for "non-compliance" with state and federal laws, and against the rule of law. Judge Lopez is not merely a private citizen affiliated with an organization with which some may disagree. As a judge he chose to stay on the associations' board, not merely as a member, but a board member. This fact reflects on his judgment and partiality as a judge as well as the qualities he would take to the federal bench.

There is not a shortage of highly qualified attorneys to consider for this appointment. Our state has many attorneys and sitting judges of various ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds who fit within the mainstream of American legal thought who are not actively involved in policy advocacy of any type. Please consider another prospect and cast your vote for one of them.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Respectfully,

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Judson H. Hill Senator