

CROW TRIBE EXECUTIVE BRANCH



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March 27, 2017

Hon. Steven Daines
320 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Hon. Jon Tester
311 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: Crow Tribe's Support for Judge Gorsuch's Confirmation

Dear Senators,

I'm writing to you as the Chairman of the Executive Branch of the Apsáalooke Nation ("Crow Tribe"), a federally recognized Tribe located on the Crow Indian Reservation in Southeastern Montana, as established by the Fort Laramie Treaties of 1851 and 1868, to voice our support that Judge Neil Gorsuch be confirmed as U.S. Supreme Court Justice.

The Crow Tribe is providing its support for Judge Gorsuch's confirmation in consideration of his impressive judiciary record which reveals him to be a fair and impartial decision maker. Importantly, Judge Gorsuch's record includes a great number of decisions involving Tribal governments, tribal people and tribal interests, and he has consistently demonstrated not only a sound understanding of Federal Indian Law principles, but a respect for our unique and closely held cultural values.

The importance of having a sitting Justice on the U.S. Supreme Court who understands Federal Indian law and treats tribes fairly cannot be overstated, since it is this Court that is all too often

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called upon to define, recognize, and in some cases, limit the rights we wield as separate sovereigns within the context of this great nation we all live under.

To be clear, the Crow Tribe understands, and expects, that Judge Gorsuch will continue to issue his rulings in the best interests of justice; which may not always be in the favor of tribal interests. However, for the above stated reasons, the Crow Tribe is confident that his confirmation will effectively ensure that tribal interests will also receive the fair and informed consideration as other non-tribal interests are generally guaranteed within our federal court system.

Respectfully,

/s/ Alvin Not Afraid, Jr.

Alvin Not Afraid, Jr., Chairman
Crow Tribe Executive Branch

Cc: United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-6050

Hon. Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Hon. Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510