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Honorable Howard Baker
United States Senator
Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C.

RE: Appointment of Judge Earl Gilliam to Federal Court

Dear Senator Baker:

I am writing at this time as a result of the prolonged frustration I have experienced because of the continuing failure and refusal of the United States Senate to confirm the nomination of Judge Earl Gilliam to the United States District Court here in San Diego.

As an attorney who specializes in federal litigation I believe that I have an interest, above and beyond that of the populace, in the maintenance of the competence and integrity of the federal judiciary here in San Diego. Consistent with this interest, I was overjoyed when, over a year ago, Judge Gilliam was nominated to assume one of the two new judicial seats in the Southern District of California. I was overjoyed not primarily because Judge Gilliam is black, and not because it has been my pleasure to have been personally acquainted with him over many years. I was overjoyed because Judge Gilliam is an outstanding jurist.

My joy, of course, has now turned to frustration since the Southern District of California in particular, and this nation in general, have thus far been denied the benefit of having Judge Gilliam seated as a federal judge. This frustration is exacerbated by the fact that there is certainly no legal, constitutional, ethical or moral reason why Judge Gilliam's nomination has not been confirmed.

Please accept this letter -- which I am certain is only one of many received by elected officials throughout this nation, on this subject -- as my personal, well-supported, request that you spare no effort in the quest for Judge Gilliam's confirmation.

Thanking you in advance for your consideration, I remain

Yours in closing,

LLOYD EDWARD TOOKS

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