

United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

## **Re:** Oppose the judicial nomination of Cory Wilson to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

Dear Senator,

The League of Conservation Voters (LCV) believes our earth is worth fighting for because everyone has a right to clean air, water, lands, and a safe, healthy community. Each year, LCV publishes the National Environmental Scorecard, which details the voting records of members of Congress on environmental legislation. The Scorecard is distributed to LCV members, concerned voters nationwide, and the media.

We urge you to oppose the judicial nomination of Cory Wilson to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. Wilson is an extreme partisan ideologue with a long record of hostile and offensive writings, raising serious concerns about his ability to be an impartial jurist. In his frequent writings criticizing environmental protections, he accused the Environmental Protection Agency of being "unchecked and unaccountable,"<sup>1</sup> dismissed renewable energy as "unworkable,"<sup>2</sup> and glibly mocked efforts to reduce carbon emissions.<sup>3</sup>

LCV is committed to ensuring access to the polls for all eligible voters, and Wilson has repeatedly advocated for restrictive voter ID laws and criticized efforts to identify voter suppression.<sup>4</sup> Wilson used his writings to further perpetuate myths of widespread voter fraud, despite extensive research to the contrary. At a time when our nation needs to take immediate action to ensure our elections are safe and accessible in the midst of a health crisis, it is unacceptable to prioritize the nomination of a judge who has actively promoted restricting access to the ballot. This is especially problematic given Mississippi's long record of voter suppression and intimidation.

Additionally, Wilson's repeated and adolescent attacks against President Obama, progressive policies and those who support them reflect a lack of judicial temperament and maturity that is inconsistent with the high standards to which a federal judge should be held. His extreme and offensive beliefs have no place on the federal bench, and given his record it is clear that he would be unable and unwilling to serve fairly as a judge.

For these reasons, LCV strongly urges you to oppose the judicial nomination of Cory Wilson to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. We will consider including this confirmation vote in the 2020 *Scorecard*. If you need more information, please call my office at (202) 785-8683 and ask to speak with a member of our government relations team.

Sincerely,

Seve Hymile

Gene Karpinski President



<sup>1</sup> Cory Wilson, *Government Gone Wild*, Madison County Journal, April 18, 2012, <u>http://onlinemadison.com/Content/EDITORIALS/Editorials/Article/WILSON-Government-gone-wild/3/3/24972</u> ("Unchecked and unaccountable agencies like the EPA and the NLRB.")

<sup>2</sup> Cory Wilson, *President Make Believe*, Mississippi PEP, June 20, 2013,

content/uploads/2019/11/Wilson-Attachments-p160-161.pdf .

<sup>4</sup> See Cory Wilson, Voter ID and the IRS, GulfLive, Cory Wilson, June 3, 2013, <u>https://www.gulflive.com/mississippi-press-opinion/2013/06/voter\_id\_and\_the\_irs\_cory\_t\_wi.html</u>; Hattiesburg puts finishing touches on divisive mayoral election sequel, Press-Register, Oct. 2, 2013. <u>https://afj.org/wp-</u> content/uploads/2019/11/Wilson-Attachments-p95-97.pdf.

https://mississippipep.wordpress.com/2013/06/20/wilson-president-make-believe/amp/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Cory Wilson, *Blessings*, Madison County Journal, Nov. 29, 2012, <u>https://afj.org/wp-</u>