

**Climate Hawks Vote • Earthjustice • League of Conservation Voters
Sierra Club • Union of Concerned Scientists**

June 10, 2022

United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Environmental Organizations Urge Swift Discharge and Confirmation of Nancy Abudu and Dale Ho

Dear Senator,

Our organizations, representing millions of voters and supporters across the country, believe that highly qualified judges with demonstrated commitments to public service are critical to our rights to clean air and clean water, the right to equitably access the ballot box and to be equal before the law.

We write to express our strong support for two extraordinary judicial nominees, Ms. Nancy Abudu and Mr. Dale Ho. Despite their eminent qualifications as two of the nation's most prominent public-interest litigators, their nominations received tie votes in the Senate Judiciary Committee and need to be discharged in order to move forward. **We strongly urge the Senate to swiftly discharge and confirm Ms. Nancy Abudu and Mr. Dale Ho without further delay.**

Ms. Nancy Abudu, nominee to the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, has led extensive litigation on a broad range of critical issues over nearly two decades, working at prestigious nonprofit organizations including the American Civil Liberties Union and Southern Poverty Law Center. She previously practiced at Skadden, Arps, Meagher & Flom, and as a staff attorney for the Eleventh Circuit to which she has now been nominated. Abudu has testified as an expert witness on voting rights and democracy before Congress as well as the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. The Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, which has worked extensively with her for many years, [wrote](#) that Abudu "has exhibited both a deep knowledge of the law and a fidelity to the highest principles of our profession, as well as warmth, a spirit of collegiality, and mutual respect for everyone she encounters." Abudu is a graduate of Columbia University and Tulane University Law School, and if confirmed, she would be the first Black woman ever to serve on the Eleventh Circuit, which covers much of the Southeastern United States.

Mr. Dale Ho, nominee to the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, is another democracy expert with experience litigating across the country for leading nonprofits including the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund and the American Civil Liberties Union. He has worked in private practice at Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson, and as an adjunct professor at New York University School of Law. After graduating from Princeton University and Yale Law School, Mr. Ho clerked for Judge Robert S. Smith, a Republican appointee to New York State's highest court. Judge Smith [wrote](#) to the Judiciary Committee that Mr. Ho's "personality and temperament make him exceptionally well suited for judicial office," and that "[h]e is not one of those people (of whom there are

all too many today) who think of members of a different political tribe as the enemy,” emphasizing his courtesy to all and their continuing friendship. If confirmed, Mr. Ho would be the only active Asian American judge on the Southern District, which has one of our country’s largest Asian American populations.

Due to their tremendous qualifications, their demonstrated experience and commitment to public service, their judicial temperament, and the fact that both nominees would bring much-needed diversity to these critically important courts, **we strongly urge swift discharge and confirmation of Ms. Nancy Abudu to the Eleventh Circuit and Mr. Dale Ho to the Southern District of New York.**

Sincerely,

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