

Essex County Bar Association

"With Honor and Dignity"

ESSEX COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE JUDICIAL APPOINTMENT PROCESS

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WHEREAS, it is the mission of the Essex County Bar Association to serve as the voice of Essex County attorneys to other organizations, governmental entities and the public, with regard to the law, the legal system and the legal profession and

WHEREAS, the Essex County Bar Association fully respects and honors the State constitutional mandates listed in Article VI, Section VI, paragraphs 1 and 3 of the New Jersey Constitution that the Governor nominate and appoint, and

WHEREAS, the Constitution further provides that such nominations shall be with the advice and consent of the Senate, and

WHEREAS, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded, and

WHEREAS the Essex County Bar Association supports a thorough evaluation of the fitness of nominees for the Supreme Court of New Jersey, the Superior Court of New Jersey, and tenure appointments because of the enormous discretionary power vested in the hands of judges, and

WHEREAS, it has been reported that consideration of judicial nominations may be delayed for political reasons, and

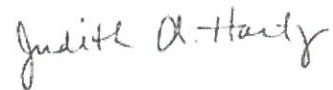
WHEREAS, the strength of our judiciary is best served by insulating those serving on the bench from the politics underlying the impasse which appears to exist in this process between the executive and legislative branches.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Essex County Bar Association supports an evaluation of all judges and judicial candidates by the Governor and Senate that is studious, fair and nonpartisan, based solely on whether the justice or judge has demonstrated the intellectual ability, integrity and judicial demeanor to serve in judicial office, without regard to philosophical differences and with due respect for judicial independence, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Essex County Bar Association urges the Senate to take prompt action to consider all pending judicial nominations and the Executive to timely nominate and re-nominate judicial candidates, thereby maintaining the integrity of New Jersey's justice system, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Essex County Bar Association calls on lawyers and other legal organizations and interested stakeholders across the State of New Jersey to contact the Executive and Legislative branches to urge them to take prompt and appropriate action with respect to the judicial nomination and appointment process.

March 16, 2016

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Judith A. Hartz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Judith A. Hartz, Esq.
Essex County Bar Association
President