

HON. LOUIE GOHMERT
FIRST DISTRICT, TEXAS



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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

April 5, 2016

The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, D.C. 20500-0005

Dear Mr. President,

It has come to my attention that you recently submitted Karen Gren Scholer as your nominee to fill a vacancy on the federal district court for the Eastern District of Texas. While Ms. Scholer possesses a thorough educational and professional background, and would make a qualified nominee in the district in which she resides, I must register my formal objection to her nomination for a judgeship in the Eastern District of Texas.

The federal judiciary has a long history of nominations being made of individuals who reside in the district or circuit to which they are nominated. While it is true that, from time to time, nominations must be made of persons not residing in the district in order for courts to operate without interruption, this is certainly not such an occasion. Within Texas' Eastern District there are many attorneys, judges, and former judges whose knowledge and experience leave them well equipped and completely competent to fill the current vacancy.

Please note, I do not object to the nomination of Ms. Scholer out of any disrespect or disregard for her professional accomplishments. She is quite accomplished, however, I firmly and sincerely request that you withdraw her nomination and instead consider one of the many qualified professionals who live and work within the Eastern District of Texas to fill this vacancy. Please be mindful of the objection raised against your Republican opponent for U.S. Senate, that someone coming in from another jurisdiction to seek an office is an affront to the local residents.

Your thorough consideration of this critical point is appreciated, and I would like you to know that I have sent copies of this letter to Senators Cornyn and Cruz, as well as to Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Leahy. Should you have any further questions or require any clarification on what I have written, please do not hesitate to contact me or my office.

With kindest regards, I am

Very Truly Yours,

Louie Gohmert
Member of Congress

CC: The Honorable Charles Grassley, Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee
The Honorable Patrick Leahy, Ranking Member of the Senate Judiciary Committee
The Honorable John Cornyn, United States Senator
The Honorable Ted Cruz, United States Senator

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