



UNITED STATES
COMMISSION ON
CIVIL RIGHTS

624 Ninth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20425

January 28, 2003

The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C.

Re: Nomination of Jeff Sutton

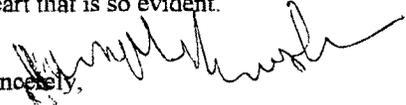
Dear Senator Hatch:

As a three-term member of the United States Civil Rights Commission and the Commission's first and only representative of disabled Americans, I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Jeff Sutton to serve on the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

I am familiar with Mr. Sutton's accomplishments and many of the landmark cases he has argued in the highest courts. I agree with some outcomes, I disagree with others, but it is clear to me that those of us who are disabled in America, and those of us who seek to protect equal opportunity and equal access for all Americans, will be well served by having in the federal judiciary someone who is so intellectually active on the issues that concern disabled Americans. I am also impressed by Jeff Sutton's personal background, which shows heartfelt sympathy for ordinary people and the disabled in particular.

The interests of the disabled are not easily pursued by partisan tactics and loud noise. The issues are complex. We are not benefited by the mere continuation of past policies or the fighting of old battles. I am well satisfied that Jeff Sutton will make a fine judge, and that he will bring to the job of judge the fine mind he has applied as an advocate, and the compassionate heart that is so evident.

Sincerely,


Russell G. Redenbaugh,
Commissioner