



June 30, 2023

The Hon. Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Leader Schumer:

On behalf of the Consortium for Constituents with Disabilities (CCD) Employment and Training Task Force, we ask you to take all necessary steps to proceed with a prompt Senate vote to confirm Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) General Counsel nominee Karla Gilbride. CCD is the largest coalition of national organizations working together to advocate for federal public policy that ensures the self-determination, independence, empowerment, integration, and inclusion of children and adults with disabilities in all aspects of society free from racism, ableism, sexism, and xenophobia, as well as LGBTQ+ based discrimination and religious intolerance.

The EEOC is a critical agency for people with disabilities and the General Counsel position is particularly vital in ensuring their employment protections. Ms. Gilbride passed through the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee on February 15, 2023, with bipartisan support and there should be no barrier to her confirmation.

Nominee Gilbride is a longtime disability rights advocate and leader in our community. She has an impressive legal career with many accomplishments representing workers, consumers, and people with disabilities in important complex, high-impact litigation across the country, including in the district courts, the appellate courts, and the U.S. Supreme Court. She is particularly well-qualified to lead the EEOC's regional and field office attorneys because she has litigated before many of the same courts where they practice and she understands what they need to succeed.

As someone with a disability herself, Ms. Gilbride has a keen understanding of the issues facing the disability community and other groups that face discrimination and exclusion. If confirmed, Ms. Gilbride will serve as a role model for law students and more junior lawyers with disabilities, sending the message that disabled people can serve in positions of authority at the highest levels. It is critical that people with disabilities serve in Senate-confirmed roles.

We urge you to schedule a Senate floor vote as soon as possible to confirm Karla Gilbride to be General Counsel for the EEOC.

Sincerely,
Access Ready
American Council of the Blind
American Printing House for the Blind
Autistic People of Color Fund (APOC)
Autistic Self Advocacy Network
Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law
Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund

Learning Disabilities Association of America
National Disability Rights Network
National Industries for the Blind

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