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June 14, 2019

United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator:

On behalf of our 3 million members and the 50 million students they serve, we strongly urge you to oppose the nomination of Matthew Kacsmaryk to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas due to his long history of seeking to deprive vulnerable populations of their dignity, future, and political voice. Votes on this issue may be included in NEA's Report Card for the 116th Congress.

Throughout his career, Mr. Kacsmaryk has been a vocal opponent of LGBTQ equality. He opposed the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's position that Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 covers sexual orientation and gender identity on the grounds it is just "another step in a decades-long process to remove the pillars of marriage law." In Utah, he maintained that discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity does not warrant the same protections as other forms of discrimination. As a lawyer, he argued, "[E]ven the state's interest in preventing sexual orientation-based discrimination cannot justify serious burdens on ... constitutionally protected religious freedom."

We believe Mr. Kacsmaryk is unfit to serve as a federal judge. We strongly urge you to oppose his nomination to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas.

Sincerely,

Marc Egan
Director of Government Relations
National Education Association