

## ONEIDA COUNTY OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

ANTHONY J. PICENTE, JR. County Executive ce@ocgov.net

August 24, 2022

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer 322 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Schumer,

As you may be aware I, and many of my partners in government, are deeply concerned at your colleague, Senator Gillibrand's recommendation to replace U.S. Federal District Court Judge David N. Hurd.

As you are aware, Judge Hurd presides in Utica. The recommendation made to the President of the United States by Senator Gillibrand eliminates decades of precedent and removes a judicial position from Utica to be placed in the Capital Region. This is wholly unacceptable.

It continues to be painfully obvious to all residents in the Mohawk Valley that Senator Gillibrand has no regard or interest in representing this region of New York. This is another blatant attempt to marginalize my community in favor of a community where she sees more political support, campaign donations and ultimately votes.

Fortunately, Judge Hurd has taken the principled stand to rescind his retirement while awaiting a nominee who is from this region and will reside in and represent this region in the same admirable way he has done during his tenure.

I'm asking you to take a role in this nomination. You can ensure the Mohawk Valley, Oneida County and the Greater Utica area not be forgotten by Senator Gillibrand, the Senate Judiciary Committee and the President of the United States when it comes to proper U.S. District Court representation.

As always, I look forward to your reply and the opportunity to discuss the matter with you, just as we have discussed many issues facing this community, something I and others from our region have rarley had the opportunity to do with Senator Gillibrand.

Sincerely,

Anthony J. Picente Jr. County Executive