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Title: Resolution strongly opposing President Bush's nomination of California Supreme Court Justice Janice Rogers Brown to the Federal Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit.

Sponsors: Charles Barron, Leroy G. Comrie, Jr., Margarita Lopez, Bill Perkins

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Res. No. 1132
Resolution strongly opposing President Bush's nomination of California Supreme Court Justice Janice Rogers Brown to the Federal Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit.

By Council Members Barron, Comrie, Lopez and Perkins

Whereas, California Supreme Court Justice Janice Rogers Brown, one of President Bush's most recent nominees to the Federal Court of Appeals, has a record that has caused many to question her fitness to serve on a court that is regarded as a stepping stone to the United States Supreme Court; and

Whereas, Judging from Judge Brown's history of disturbing judicial dissents, she has often inserted her conservative views into her appellate opinions and would similarly use the power of the Appeals Court to push an agenda that would undermine privacy, civil rights, environmental laws and other hard fought precedents; and

Whereas, Judge Brown possesses a dubious record on affirmative action and displays a record of hostility to fundamental civil liberties and constitutional rights principles; she is an active proponent of an arch-conservative reading of the law, consequently interpreting state and federal laws in ways that would make it extremely difficult to enact and sustain vital protections, including occupational safety and environmental protection laws; and

Whereas, According to a joint in-depth analysis of her record released by People For The American Way and the NAACP, Justice Brown has a record of ideological extremism that makes her unfit to serve on the Court of Appeals; and

Whereas, Judge Brown is far from the mainstream in judicial temperament, with her strongly worded dissents crossing the line from judicial disagreement to arch-conservative rhetoric; and

Whereas, According to Hillary Shelton, director of the NAACP Washington Bureau, "[Judge Brown] has a record of hostility to fundamental civil and constitutional rights principles, and she is committed to using her power as a judge to twist the law in ways that undermine those principles"; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York strongly opposes President Bush's nomination of California Supreme Court Justice Janice Rogers Brown to the Federal Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit.

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TQ-10/30/03