October 8, 2019

The Honorable Jerry Moran, Chairman
The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
Room S-128
The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Moran and Ranking Member Shaheen:

On behalf of the American Bar Association (ABA), the largest voluntary association of lawyers and legal professionals in the world, congratulations to the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies on the completion of your bill through the full Appropriations Committee.

In particular, the ABA was pleased to see that you increased Legal Services Corporation (LSC) funding by $10.5 million in your bill. We urge you to make LSC a top priority in reconciling the differences with the House bill and to move as close to the House funding level as possible.

The ABA has strong history and policy in support of LSC and its role in “Equal Justice Under Law” for vulnerable citizens. The Legal Services Corporation benefits veterans, the aging population, survivors of domestic and sexual violence, organizations that aid in natural disaster cleanup, and the family and friends of those people caught up in the opioid crisis. LSC provides the backbone for America’s civil legal aid and its essential companion, the steadfast contribution of pro bono attorneys, many of whom are our members.

Thank you, again, for your committee’s support of LSC. Your staffers Amber Beck and Jean Toal Eisen have been well attuned to LSC matters. If you or your staff have any questions, feel free to contact Aloysius Hogan in the ABA Governmental Affairs Office at aloysius.hogan@americanbar.org or (202) 662-1767.

Sincerely,

Judy Perry Martinez