



BRETT KAVANAUGH ACTION RESOURCES



ALLIANCE^{FOR} JUSTICE
ACTION CAMPAIGN

KAVANAUGH: WRONG FOR THE SUPREME COURT

TOGETHER, WE CAN #STOPKAVANAUGH

The future of the Supreme Court hangs in the balance with the next lifetime appointment to the Court.

Judge Brett Kavanaugh is a nominee whose confirmation would endanger critical legal rights and protections for millions of people.

Kavanaugh was nominated to the Supreme Court because he passed Donald Trump's litmus test as a person who, if confirmed, would "automatically" overturn and gut *Roe v. Wade* and who would work against accessible and affordable health care.

Like virtually all of Donald Trump's nominees, Kavanaugh can be counted on to favor the wealthy and powerful over the rights of all. He would push the Supreme Court to further gut access to health care and rights for workers, women, people of color, LGBTQ people, and immigrants. And he would not serve as a much-needed check on the executive branch.

We can't afford the confirmation of another extreme right-wing justice in the mold of Neil Gorsuch, Donald Trump's first appointee to the Court. And we know we can win. Mass mobilization against unqualified, extreme federal judicial nominees has resulted in their withdrawal in the past, but it takes all of us coming together.

Together, we can #StopKavanaugh. This toolkit can help you take action.

WHAT'S IN THIS TOOLKIT

RESOURCES FOR INDIVIDUALS

- Key points
- Tips on taking action
- Sample call script
- Writing a letter to your senator
- Writing a letter to the editor
- Sample social media

RESOURCES FOR ORGANIZATIONS

- Key points
- Tips on taking action
- Sample call script
- Writing an action alert
- Writing a letter to senators
- Planning an event

WRONG FOR THE SUPREME COURT

KEY POINTS

A coalition of progressive organizations opposing the Kavanaugh nomination have developed these talking points for activists:

*Since Kavanaugh's name was on Donald Trump's short list of potential nominees approved by the Heritage Foundation and Federalist Society, we know he satisfied Trump's litmus test as a person who, if confirmed, would "automatically" [overturn](#) *Roe v. Wade* and who would work against accessible and affordable health care.*

In the now-famous "Jane Doe" case, Kavanaugh [tried](#) to block an undocumented minor in government custody from exercising her constitutionally protected right to an abortion. Over Kavanaugh's dissent, the D.C. Circuit [allowed](#) the young woman to seek the care she needed.

In a case challenging the Affordable Care Act, Kavanaugh [wrote](#) a dissenting opinion that would have kept alive a frivolous attack on the health care of millions of Americans.

Kavanaugh believes the president should be above the law. He has [said](#) the president should have "absolute discretion" to determine whether and when to appoint a special counsel like Robert Mueller. And he [said](#) that special counsels should be "removable in the same manner as other high-level executive branch officials" - in other words, at the president's prerogative. Kavanaugh has also [said](#) that a sitting president should not be able to be criminally indicted, no matter what evidence of wrongdoing is uncovered. He would not serve as a much-needed check on the executive branch.

Kavanaugh would favor the wealthy and powerful over the rights of all. Throughout his tenure on the bench, he has consistently ruled against workers, consumers, and the environment.

He [believes](#) the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, which was created to protect consumers from unscrupulous financial institutions, is unconstitutional.

He [argued](#) that the FCC's net neutrality rule benefitting millions was unconstitutional.

Kavanaugh has repeatedly ruled against protections for [clean air](#) and [clean water](#).

In one case he [tried](#) to reverse an EPA penalty against a company that improperly shipped a corrosive chemical that caused "significant risks to public health."

He has [fought](#) for cable companies and the auto industry, against consumers.

Kavanaugh has a poor record on antitrust issues: He [stood](#) with multi-billion dollar insurance companies that were merging to eliminate consumer choice.

He has consistently ruled against workers [fighting discrimination](#) and [mistreatment](#) on the job.

He is so extreme that he has the highest number of dissents per year of any judge on the D.C. Circuit.

The American people need a nominee who believes the Constitution protects all of us, not just the wealthy and powerful. Supreme Court justices should approach each case with an open mind and make fair decisions based on the merits of each case. But Kavanaugh would rule according to the political agenda of the Trump Administration.

TAKE ACTION CONTACT YOUR SENATOR

ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE

Go to afjac.org and use our call-in tool to call your senators. Write a letter or schedule a meeting with them to follow up.

CONTACT YOUR SENATORS

Start a call-in, petition, or letter drive, and ask others to join your meeting with your senator(s)

MOBILIZE YOUR NETWORK

Write a letter to the editor or an op-ed in your local paper, or on your own blog. Build the movement online with social media posts using the hashtag #StopKavanaugh.

AMPLIFY YOUR VOICE

Hold a panel, an event or a visibility action to show others how the Supreme Court affects them and what they can do to take action.

EDUCATE YOUR COMMUNITY

GET CONNECTED TO YOUR SENATOR AT **AFJAC.ORG**

TELL YOUR SENATOR: My name is [name], and I'm a constituent from [city]. I'm calling because I am deeply concerned about Brett Kavanaugh, Donald Trump's nominee for the Supreme Court. Kavanaugh's extreme views threaten women's rights, LGBTQ rights, and the rights of many other communities. I am urging Senator X to Vote No on Kavanaugh. Thank you.

STAY ON THEIR RADAR

Call your senators. Get 10 friends to call. Ask them to ask 10 friends to call. Then call again.

CALL YOUR SENATORS

Identify people in your network who are particularly influential - like community and business leaders or state elected officials - and ask them to call.

IDENTIFY INFLUENCERS

Schedule appointments or drop in to district offices. Set up a phone call with your senator while they're in DC.

SCHEDULE APPOINTMENTS

Attend town halls, public appearances, and events and tell them to #StopKavanaugh.

SHOWING UP MATTERS

DON'T FORGET THE FOLLOW-UP

Thank the staff or the senator for a response. When your senators vote or announce a position, hold them accountable - it's just as important to thank them for coming out strongly on your side as it is to express disappointment or continued opposition when they don't.

TAKE ACTION WRITE TO YOUR SENATOR

YOUR SENATORS NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU

Contacting your senators directly is the most important way to highlight the public movement to #StopKavanaugh and make a difference. They need to hear from constituents opposed to Kavanaugh's nomination – every day, everywhere. Send a letter to your senators, and ask others to send letters as well. To escalate pressure on your senators, you can also publish the letter online or in the media.

The Honorable [Full Name]
[Room #] [Name of] Senate Office Building United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator _____,

As a constituent residing in [Your Town], I write to urge you to reject the nomination of Brett Kavanaugh for the U.S. Supreme Court.

Kavanaugh's nomination causes deep concern for several reasons. First, he clearly passed Donald Trump's two main litmus tests for Supreme Court nominees: he will overturn and gut *Roe v. Wade* and undermine the Affordable Care Act. If Kavanaugh is confirmed, 130 million Americans with preexisting conditions stand to lose their protections.

With Kavanaugh on the high court, many other critical legal rights and protections are at risk as well. He believes the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, created to protect consumers from unscrupulous financial institutions, is unconstitutional. He has repeatedly ruled against protections for clean air and water, and against workers fighting discrimination on the job. Disturbingly, he has indicated on several occasions that he believes presidents should be above the law – a deeply troubling point of view that is not consistent with our system of government.

We also know that Kavanaugh was hand-picked by the ultraconservative Federalist Society and Heritage Foundation, and would favor the wealthy and powerful over the rights of all.

Brett Kavanaugh just cannot be trusted to serve as a fair-minded, independent jurist on our highest court.

Your leadership on so many critical issues has been invaluable for [residents of your state, i.e., "Californians"] and people across the country. On this issue, we need your leadership more than ever. Please take the time to fully scrutinize the record of Brett Kavanaugh with the utmost attention to his ability to uphold core constitutional values of liberty, equality, and justice for all. I am confident that in so doing you will reach the conclusion so many of us have reached: that this nominee is not the right choice to sit on our highest court.

Sincerely,
Your Name
Address

SAMPLE LETTER TO YOUR SENATOR

TAKE ACTION

WRITE AN LTE

TIPS FOR WRITING A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Before submitting your letter, check your paper's guidelines on length. Use our talking points to get your point across concisely but remember to connect these issues to your local area. Always find a way to describe how the next Supreme Court justice could affect your community now and in the future.

**BE CLEAR, TIMELY,
AND CONCISE**

End your piece by asking your community to get involved or by calling on your senators to take action and oppose Kavanaugh's nomination.

**ASKS AND
CALLS TO ACTION**

Try your local or school paper first, but also reach out to other publications. This is a very important issue and the media will be looking for local perspectives. You can also maximize your efforts by having others in your community write letters to the same papers. Even if they are not printed, this will let editors know that this issue matters to the community.

**AMPLIFY
YOUR IMPACT**

Check your local newspaper so you can respond to a recent article or a recent event related to the Kavanaugh nomination or to issues that Kavanaugh's confirmation would directly impact. When submitting your letter, make sure you refer to the article specifically by name and date. This will make it more likely that your letter gets published.

**BE
CURRENT**

IF YOUR LETTER IS PRINTED, SEND A COPY TO YOUR SENATORS' OFFICES

Senators often search for the issues that their constituents care about in these local papers. Make sure that you bring your letter to your next meeting with your senators or send their local aides a copy – this will ensure that your message reaches them.

TAKE ACTION WRITE YOUR LETTER

SAMPLE LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor,

In nominating Brett Kavanaugh for a seat on the Supreme Court, President Trump has chosen an individual who passed his key litmus tests: a person who will overturn and gut *Roe v. Wade* and undermine the Affordable Care Act, including stripping coverage from millions with preexisting conditions. Make no mistake; if Kavanaugh is confirmed, millions of people will lose access to vital medical care, and decades of progress in establishing our rights are in danger.

Like virtually all Trump nominees, Kavanaugh can also be relied upon to put the interests of the wealthy and powerful first. How do we know? Trump's short-list of desirable Supreme Court nominees, on which Kavanaugh appeared, was approved by the ultraconservative Heritage Foundation and Federalist Society. These groups are in the pocket of big corporations and the one percent; their recommendations are designed first and foremost to further those interests.

The Supreme Court has already taken a troubling turn with the addition of Donald Trump's first appointee, Neil Gorsuch. The most recent term saw rulings that harmed workers, women, LGBTQ Americans, immigrants, and even the time-honored American democratic principle of "one person, one vote."

We don't need another Supreme Court justice who will follow in lockstep with Gorsuch and the hard right. Senators [your senators' names here] must vote no on the nomination of Brett Kavanaugh.

Sincerely,

Signature and contact information here

SAMPLE LETTER TO THE EDITOR

TAKE ACTION USING SOCIAL MEDIA

TIPS FOR SOCIAL MEDIA

Look up your senators' social media handles. Tag them in relevant posts, and tweet directly at them. Encourage your friends and followers to do the same.

TAG YOUR SENATORS

Identify the key hashtags for your issue, like #SaveSCOTUS and #StopKavanaugh. Tie into hashtags that trend weekly, and keep an eye out for opportunities to engage with new ones.

KNOW YOUR HASHTAGS

Engage with other users talking about your issue by retweeting, liking, and sharing their content. Ask your followers to retweet and share your posts if they agree.

RETWEET, LIKE, AND SHARE

Ask questions, make polls, and post other content that encourages your followers to engage with you and the issue. Send out new resources that will help people learn more about the courts.

ENGAGE YOUR AUDIENCE

SOCIAL MEDIA CAN BE A POWERFUL TOOL. Social media can help you use your network to build the movement for fair courts. Adding your voice to the conversation, and using it to amplify the other actions you're taking, can help hold your senator accountable.

- Brett Kavanaugh wants to gut Roe and the Affordable Care Act, putting millions of people's lives at risk. Say no to Kavanaugh on #SCOTUS! #StopKavanaugh
- Brett Kavanaugh was hand-picked by far-right interest groups who want #SCOTUS to undermine the rights of women, people of color, workers, and more. #StopKavanaugh and protect our rights.
- Brett Kavanaugh would turn back the clock on rights for millions of people in America. He cares about the wealthy and powerful, not all of us. Kavanaugh doesn't belong on #SCOTUS: #StopKavanaugh



Save Roe v. Wade.
Save our health care.
#STOPKAVANAUGH

SAMPLE SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS

TAKE ACTION MOBILIZE YOUR NETWORK

SENATORS ARE ELECTED TO REPRESENT THEIR CONSTITUENTS

Senators pay attention to constituents' messages about Supreme Court nominees. Mass mobilizations including phone calls, rallies, demonstrations and other events have had a major impact on the public's awareness of critical issues and nominations and an impact on how Senators vote. And that's how we can win. The outcry against the Republican plan to undermine the Affordable Care Act led to the defeat of legislation to gut the ACA. Mass mobilization of diverse constituencies resulted in the withdrawal of four of Trump's federal judicial nominees.

Contacting your senators directly is the most important way to highlight the public movement to #StopKavanaugh and make a difference. They need to hear from constituents opposed to Kavanaugh's nomination – every day, everywhere.

WHAT YOUR ORGANIZATION CAN DO

Send a letter to and call Senate Judiciary Committee members and other senators your organization is close to.

**CONTACT
SENATORS DIRECTLY**

Send an action alert to your list urging them to call, write, or otherwise contact their senator(s) demanding that they reject Brett Kavanaugh for the Supreme Court.

**MOBILIZE
YOUR NETWORK**

Issue a press release or write a letter to the editor in local, state, and national publications about the importance of this Supreme Court nomination. Amplify your organization's position on social media.

**AMPLIFY
YOUR ORGANIZATION'S IMPACT**

Host a panel discussion, a press event, or a visibility action on Kavanaugh's record. Organize an action, protest, or press conference on the dangers of giving Donald Trump another appointment to the Supreme Court.

**EDUCATE
AND MOBILIZE THE PUBLIC**

TAKE ACTION AMPLIFY YOUR VOICE

TIPS FOR WRITING AN ACTION ALERT

Be sure to include examples of how this specific nominee negatively affects the issues that your organization cares about.

Include a link to a page where you can gather the name, email, and address of the action takers.

Also include a comment box and ask the caller to record the response (if any) that they get from the office of their senator.

Include graphics in the body of the email.

Name:

With the nomination of Brett Kavanaugh to the United States Supreme Court, Donald Trump is continuing his push to transform the court and roll back the civil and human rights progress of the last several decades. The stakes for the Court could not be higher: progress on health care and on rights for women, workers, LGBTQ people, people of color, immigrants and others hang in the balance. Kavanaugh threatens all of these.

That's why it's critical we do everything in our power to #StopKavanaugh. And you can help.

Go to afjac.org to be connected to your senators, and demand that they vote no on the nomination of Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court.

We already know Kavanaugh passed Donald Trump's two main litmus tests for Supreme Court nominees: he will overturn and gut *Roe v. Wade* and undermine the Affordable Care Act. In the now-famous "Jane Doe" case, Kavanaugh tried to block an undocumented minor in government custody from exercising her constitutionally protected right to an abortion. In a case challenging the Affordable Care Act, Kavanaugh wrote a dissenting opinion that would have kept alive a frivolous attack on the health care of millions of Americans. If Kavanaugh is confirmed, 130 million Americans with preexisting conditions stand to lose their protections.

But there's more. Kavanaugh believes the president should be above the law. He has said the president should have "absolute discretion" to determine whether and when to appoint a special counsel like Robert Mueller, and he believes that special counsels should be "removable in the same manner as other high-level executive branch officials" - in other words, if the president says so. Kavanaugh once wrote that it a sitting president should not be able to be criminally indicted, no matter what evidence of wrongdoing exists. In the Trump era, this is especially disturbing.

Brett Kavanaugh just cannot be trusted to serve as a fair-minded, independent jurist on our highest court. Demand that your senator reject the nomination of Brett Kavanaugh: call now at afjac.org.

Signed,

Alliance for Justice Action Campaign

SAMPLE ACTION ALERT

TAKE ACTION AMPLIFY YOUR VOICE

SENATORS NEED TO HEAR FROM YOUR ORGANIZATION

Contacting senators directly is one of the most important ways to highlight the public movement to stop Kavanaugh and make a difference. In addition to mobilizing your network and having your organization's supporters call and write their senators, your organization should send a letter to the Senate Judiciary Committee leadership detailing your organization's concerns with Brett Kavanaugh's record and potential impact on the issues your organization champions. You can email the letter to Chairman Chuck Grassley's office at Mike_Davis@judiciary-rep.senate.gov and Ranking Member Dianne Feinstein at info@judiciary-dem.senate.gov.

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Chairman
Senate Committee on the Judiciary
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on the Judiciary
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein:

As an organization representing [YOUR CONSTITUENCY, ISSUE, or NUMBER OF SUPPORTERS], we write in opposition to the nomination of Brett Kavanaugh for a seat on the U.S. Supreme Court.

[Your customized paragraphs on why your group opposes Kavanaugh, based on his record. You can find detailed information on his record in our sister organization AFJ's research.]

We urge you to reject this nomination and to use your leadership of the Senate Judiciary Committee to ensure bipartisan consultation on judicial nominations in the future, as well as the confirmation of qualified individuals who will ensure that critical legal rights and protections are upheld for all of us.

Sincerely,
Your Organization
Contact information

SAMPLE ORGANIZATIONAL LETTER

TAKE ACTION

PLAN AN EVENT

PLAN A #STOPKAVANAUGH SUPREME COURT EVENT

Public events are a great tool for increasing activism on the ground. They are essential for raising awareness and mobilizing like-minded individuals around an issue. They also serve as a great resource to bring in new people to rally around an important cause.

Events can be as simple as a panel of speakers discussing the importance of the Supreme Court nomination fight, or as comprehensive as a full-day symposium or teach-in with multiple sessions and keynote speakers. Here are some simple steps to make your event a success:

Identify the topic you want to focus on. A Supreme Court nominee is important for many reasons, and there are plenty of directions in which to take your event. Pick an underlying theme to keep the event and discussion focused. Keep in mind who your potential audience is and what topic(s) will appeal to them. Examples include “The Dangers of a Trump Court,” “The Importance of the Court’s Check on a Trump Administration,” and “The Impact of the Kavanaugh Nomination on the Future of the Supreme Court.”

Identify partners. Based on the topic or turnout goal, it may be important to line up co-sponsoring organizations that have a direct stake in the issue, or have a large base of supporters that would be interested. Partner organizations can help in many ways, such as contacting their networks about the event, helping identify and confirm speakers, offering or helping to secure space, providing financial or in-kind support such as food and beverages.

Secure a space for your event. Consider your expected crowd size. If you book a space that is too large, your event will look empty. An overly small space might discourage people from staying. Look for free venues where available, such as community centers, libraries, restaurants, or other spaces. Identify locations where town halls and community events are held. Make sure you work your connections. See if partner organizations have established relationships that can help you secure a free or low-cost space.

Check with local restaurants. They are sometimes willing to donate their space - and occasionally will donate food as well.

Identify speakers. Who cares most about your topic? Identify community leaders who can serve as speakers that care about this nomination and the issues at stake, and are seen as influential in their field. Who will help draw a crowd? Think of speakers your target audience will want to see to help increase turnout. Think about speakers representing different demographics, professional areas of expertise, and issue areas.

Create a flyer. Make sure you describe the event and list the speakers. Spread the flyer far and wide. Distribute it through email and social media.

Get your event listed on local calendars. You can submit your event online to local community and media network calendars. A good flyer makes a great image to accompany your calendar listing.

Create an email blast. Invite your network to attend the event. Be sure to create an RSVP page so that you can track the number of attendees you are expecting.

Don't forget social media. Create a Facebook event. Share it with your contacts. Make sure you set it up so attendees can invite their contacts as well. Send reminders. A small message to your event group and a post on your page a week, two days before, and the day of the event will keep it fresh in people's minds.

Get photos. Take pictures and ask people to post their own. Make sure you use the #StopKavanaugh hashtag.

TIPS FOR PLANNING AN EVENT

TAKE ACTION

PLAN AN EVENT

SAMPLE EVENT OUTLINES

PANEL DISCUSSION: WHY THE KAVANAUGH SCOTUS NOMINATION THREATENS US ALL

The nomination of Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court directly threatens the future of reproductive rights, health care, and a range of key constitutional rights. Panelists will discuss how the confirmation of Kavanaugh would roll back the progress of many decades.

EVENT OUTLINE

- 5:30:** Reception, light refreshments
- 6:00:** Welcome from Jane Smith, President of Sponsoring Organization
- 6:05:** Welcome from John Doe, President of Second Sponsor
- 6:10:** Moderator and panelists speak
- 7:00:** Q&A
- 7:20:** Moderator wrap-up and call to action
- 7:25:** Closing remarks

SAMPLE PANEL DISCUSSION

ORGANIZING MEETING: TAKING ACTION ON THE KAVANAUGH SCOTUS NOMINATION

EVENT OUTLINE

- 5:30:** Reception and light refreshments
- 6:00:** Welcome from host and introductions of all in attendance
- 6:10:** Overview of impact of the Supreme Court by legal scholar
- 6:20:** Overview on the effectiveness of community organizing and ways to take action
- 6:30:** Brainstorming session on how attendees can take action in their communities and encourage others to take action
- 7:00:** Closing remarks from host

Note: All attendees should leave the meeting with action items to complete and ways to follow up with each other and the convening organization. Make sure to get emails and contact info for all attendees!

SAMPLE ORGANIZING MEETING