

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 20, 2015

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
S-230, the Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Leader McConnell:

We are writing to urge you to schedule a vote on the confirmation of Loretta Lynch to serve as Attorney General of the United States. We believe that Ms. Lynch deserves an up-or-down vote on her own merits and that her confirmation should not be held up because of a dispute over federal funding for women's health care in an unrelated bill.

As you know, Ms. Lynch's nomination was advanced by the Senate Judiciary Committee in a bipartisan vote on February 26. At a time when the Justice Department is busy addressing multiple challenges, its agents, attorneys, and other staff deserve the certainty that comes with confirmed leadership in place.

Ms. Lynch has a distinguished record serving as U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of New York – one of the nation's busiest and most challenging jurisdictions. She was first nominated to that post by President Clinton in 1999, after working her way up the ranks as a prosecutor, helping to get drugs off the streets and bring violent criminals to justice. Ms. Lynch has sat as a member of the board of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and has been in private practice with one of the nation's largest and most respected law firms. This diversity of experience will serve her well at the helm of a Department charged with prosecuting dangerous criminals and terror suspects, waging the war on drugs, and cracking down on financial crimes. She would also make history as the first African-American woman to lead the Justice Department.

With her strong background to recommend her, and with bipartisan support from the Judiciary Committee, Ms. Lynch deserves a swift, up-or-down vote for confirmation. There is no reason to delay taking this action, and we hope you will heed the many calls to do so.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



STENY H. HOYER  
Democratic Whip



YVETTE CLARKE  
9<sup>th</sup> District of New York

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Hjort Tronings

Charles B. Rangel

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