



## ***Committee of 100***

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For immediate release

## **Committee of 100 Supports Confirmation of Goodwin H. Liu to the US Circuit Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit**

(New York, NY—May 26, 2010)--The Committee of 100 (C-100) supports the confirmation of Goodwin H. Liu for a seat on the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. President Barack Obama has nominated Professor Liu, and he is presently awaiting confirmation by the United States Senate.

Consistent with its mission of advancing the participation of Chinese Americans in all aspects of public life in the United States, C-100 supports federal judicial nominations of Chinese Americans when the American Bar Association (ABA) gives the nominee its highest rating. C-100 is impressed that the ABA has given Professor Liu such a rating, indicated by a unanimous vote of well-qualified. The ABA is a nonpartisan organization, and conducts its comprehensive review without regard to political affiliation. Presidents since Dwight D. Eisenhower have relied on the ABA's evaluations in determining an individual's fitness for nomination.

C-100 Chairman John Chen comments: "C-100 urges the Senate to confirm Professor Goodwin Liu. His ascension to the bench would signal that talented people of all backgrounds are integral to our justice system."

We call on the Senate to confirm Professor Liu. If confirmed, Professor Liu would be only the second active Asian Pacific American federal appellate court Judge and the only one presiding over appeals covering California, Hawaii, and other Western states with high Asian Pacific American populations. Professor Liu also would be only the third Chinese American federal appellate court judge in the history of our democracy.

Professor Liu's upbringing is the realization of the American Dream. Professor Liu was born in Augusta, Georgia, to Taiwanese immigrants who came to the United States in the late 1960's when foreign doctors were being recruited to work in underserved areas. Living in Georgia and then Florida, Professor Liu did not learn to speak English until kindergarten because his parents worried that Liu and his brother would acquire an accent if they were taught at home. The family then moved to Sacramento in 1977, where he would eventually graduate as valedictorian of his public high school before attending Stanford University and studying at Oxford University on a Rhodes Scholarship.

Professor Liu is eminently qualified to serve as a federal appellate court judge. Professor Liu is a distinguished graduate of Yale Law School and a former law clerk to Judge David S. Tatel on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit and Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg on the U.S. Supreme Court. He was a Senior Program Officer for Higher Education at the Corporation for

National Service in Washington, D.C., where he helped launch the AmeriCorps program. He also served as a Special Assistant to the Deputy Secretary at the US. Department of Education, where he advised the Secretary and Deputy Secretary on a wide range of legal and policy issues. Professor Liu also has private sector experience as a former member of the litigation practice of O'Melveny & Myers in Washington D.C. He is the Associate Dean and Professor of Law at UC Berkeley School of Law, and is a renowned expert on educational and constitutional law.

The Committee of 100 is a national non-profit, non-partisan, membership organization that addresses issues concerning Sino-U.S. relations and affecting the Chinese American community. The Committee draws upon the collective experience, knowledge, and resources our members-Chinese Americans who have achieved prominence in a variety of fields- to work in partnership towards a dual mission: 1. Promoting a constructive relationship between the peoples of Greater China and the United States 2. Promoting the full participation of Chinese Americans in all aspects of American life.

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