

November 30, 2021

Re: Markup of S. 2340, the Daniel Anderl Judicial Security and Privacy Act of 2021

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the American Bar Association, the largest voluntary association of lawyers and legal professionals in the world, I write you in your capacity as a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee with regard to S. 2340, the Daniel Anderl Judicial Security and Privacy Act of 2021, which we understand is scheduled for markup by the committee on December 2. We urge you to keep this bipartisan bill focused on enhancing the security of our federal judges by opposing any non-germane amendments that may be proposed, and to report it to the Senate decisively for swift passage.

Enhancing the security of our federal judges is of paramount importance to the ABA and the entire legal profession. As you know, the U.S. Marshals Service reports that credible threats against judges have skyrocketed over the last several years. This legislation, which would limit the disclosure and publication of judges' personally identifiable information, is urgently needed to preserve the ability of our federal judges to decide matters that come before them without fear of reprisal or physical harm to themselves or their families. At present, the ready availability of such information on the internet, combined with the ease of sharing it through social media, makes it far too easy for an individual with a vendetta to track and locate a judge and family members for the sole purpose of doing them harm. The recent murder of the son of Federal District Court Judge Salas in their family home is a tragic reminder that Congress needs to act now and pass this critical legislation.

On [October 25](#), we wrote to express our support for amending the bill to include judges of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces, U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, and U.S. Tax Court within its scope of coverage. Like all other courts covered in the current bill, these Article I courts are courts of record that are independent of the Executive Branch, exercise judicial authority, and whose decisions are subject to review in an Article III appellate court. The security and privacy threats facing these judges are no less real than those threats faced by other federal judges. Inclusion of this germane amendment will strengthen the bill.

Federal judges in your state are depending on you to pass this legislation without any debilitating amendments.

Sincerely,



Reginald M. Turner, Jr.
President, American Bar Association