

Senator Kelly Ayotte  
U.S.Senate  
Washington, DC

3.27.2016

Dear Senator:

I was dismayed at the news yesterday, showing that you are defying your own constituents about your participation in the qualification discussions on a new Supreme Court member.

I am of the same opinion. We, the voters are saying that we pay you handsomely, along with the numerous perks, to earn a day's pay pay for a day's work, which you threaten to ignore, at the behest of Mitch McConnell and other GOP gurus. All for the sake of gain partisan superiority in the court in the future, they hope.

Instead, you wish is to delay the Constitutional confirmation process indefinitely. I don't think our original legislators meant to allow Congress to play games with a serious process as this, to play a game of partisanship. Obama has promised to keep the ball rolling, as intended, by offering a candidate who is not willing to play partisanship. I found the photo of you offensive, of your being overseen by Mitch Mconnell for every word you said to make sure you did not wander off his script ascribed to you.

I do hope that unprejudiced heads in Senate will prevail, and that your's is one of them. I live in South Carolina, which I call my GOP prison. It starts with excessive gerrymandering to insure GOP legislature, who in turn are the only ones authorized to appoint judges, to be supervised by our Supreme Court by a Republican, who in turn follows the dictates of our gun-toting governor, Nikki Haley. Along with archaic laws, our public school system is controlled by legalized school segregation, to save money. As an example, a law suit by seven school districts (counties) to demand equal school funding around the state has been delayed over 20 years by our judiciary, under the watchful eye of Alan Wilson, our our Supreme Court justice. I thought all of this was illegal. So, how come it still exists and persists?

Our domestic violence murders are the highest in the nation, while Haley hews the line of NRA to the point of obstructing gun laws even to force legal registration of all guns, or plugging the loopholes of illegal gun show laws, etc. SC should be a GOP paradise, but the opposite is true. I can't dissuade by myself our national judiciary to intercede in SC, but I am trying. Particanship is stifling us. So, watch out.  
Sincerely,

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3/2016 **Let**

*post and courier*

## Raise the gas tax

Sen. Larry Grooms and even Gov. Nikki Haley are considering \$400 million to get the ball rolling to repair and maintain the state's roads and bridges without a raise in the gasoline tax. This is a pure expense with revenue coming from the income taxes of all citizens. To me that's as amateurish as it can get. It encourages even more Georgians and North Carolinians to drive over the border to buy our gas on the cheap.

Even if you don't own a car, you pay the gas tax. It's enough to get our neighboring states and tourists laughing and scratching their heads in amazement and gratitude.

What I proposed months ago to our legislators was a logical, simple legislative solution. Use the math departments at USC and or Clemson, together with the S.C. Department of Revenue and the Department of Transportation, to calculate a realistic starting gas tax increase, to be designed for perpetuity to accomplish the task. Thereby it becomes a simple user tax.

The more you drive, the more you contribute toward roads and bridges. If you don't drive at all, you pay nothing. That way our neighboring states and tourists also contribute their share. In the meantime, revenue is created automatically to pay for the anticipated expenses.

Link it to the Consumer Price Index to avoid a yearly legislative hassle. What could be simpler than that? Keep it clean and simple, and act on it now.

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