

U.S. SENATOR BOB CASEY



FIGHTING *for a* **FAIR SHOT** *for* **FAMILIES, KIDS and SENIORS**

Opening the Courthouse Doors

Senator Casey believes a strong and independent judiciary is fundamental to our democracy. Whether through ensuring the federal bench is fully staffed with judges who reflect the diversity of their communities, or through ensuring that everyday Americans are not unfairly deprived of their day in court, Senator Casey believes that equal justice is our common project. He is committed to protecting access to the courthouse for all citizens.

- Senator Casey **worked to confirm 19 judges** to district courts in Pennsylvania and the Third Circuit Court of Appeals since entering the Senate, a diverse group including two African American, three Latino and four female judges.
- Senator Casey is **pushing to confirm five more judges**, again a diverse slate of nominees including two African Americans and two women. Republicans have engaged in an unprecedented level of obstruction when it comes to federal judicial nominees, but Senator Casey continues to push to confirm these nominees in a variety of ways, from publishing op-eds and statements in the Congressional Record, to seeking confirmation of district judges on the Senate floor.
- Senator Casey has been a vocal advocate for giving Judge Merrick Garland, President Obama's nominee to **fill the vacancy on the Supreme Court**, fair consideration in the Senate. The Senate has a constitutional duty to provide advice and consent on judicial nominations, but Republican leadership has led an unprecedented effort to block the Senate from doing its job. Senator Casey has demanded action in numerous op-eds, speeches from the Senate floor and press conferences, as well as in a letter to Republican leaders and a resolution introduced in the Senate in September.
- Senator Casey was the lead cosponsor introducing the **Protecting Older Workers Against Discrimination Act**. This bill would restore the standard, eroded by the Supreme Court's 2009 decision in *Gross v. FBL Financial Service, Inc.*, that allows plaintiffs to bring workplace age discrimination claims as long as discrimination was a motivating factor, even if not the sole or overriding factor in an adverse employment decision.
- Senator Casey cosponsored the **Arbitration Fairness Act**. This bill would invalidate pre-dispute forced arbitration clauses, which often prevent those who feel their rights have been violated from seeking redress in court, in consumer and employment contracts.
- Senator Casey signed a **letter to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB)** expressing support for its proposal to put new restrictions on the use of pre-dispute forced arbitration clauses in financial services contracts.
- Senator Casey signed a **letter to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)**, urging the agency to ban pre-dispute forced arbitration clauses in long-term care facility contracts.