

Received(Date): 9 MAR 2003 16:40:51
From: Brett M. Kavanaugh (CN=Brett M. Kavanaugh/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])
To: David G. Leitch (CN=David G. Leitch/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO]),
AGonzale@who.eop.gov (AGonzale@who.eop.gov [WHO])
Subject: : Fw: Fargo Forum Editorial: Put an end to Estrada filibuster
[P_VPEIE003_WHO.TXT_1.htm](#)

Begin Original ARMS Header #####
RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)
CREATOR: Brett M. Kavanaugh (CN=Brett M. Kavanaugh/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])
CREATION DATE/TIME: 9-MAR-2003 16:40:51.00
SUBJECT:: Fw: Fargo Forum Editorial: Put an end to Estrada filibuster
TO: David G. Leitch (CN=David G. Leitch/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ: UNKNOWN
TO: AGonzale@who.eop.gov (AGonzale@who.eop.gov [WHO])
READ: UNKNOWN
End Original ARMS Header

Editorial drumbeat continues.

----- Original Message -----
From: Staylor@georgewbush.com
To: Lrodriguez@georgewbush.com,
Brett M. Kavanaugh/WHO/EOP@EOP
Cc:
Date: 03/09/2003 04:38:32 PM
Subject: FW: Fargo Forum Editorial: Put an end to Estrada filibuster

FYI.....
-----Original Message-----From: Daniel M. Traynor
[mailto:dantraynor@ndgop.org]
Sent: Sunday, March 09, 2003 12:40 PM
To: Sara Taylor
Cc: Michael Thielen; Jason Stverak; Dean Winkjer; Chad Colby -
Communications; Patrick Davis; Anne Hathaway
Subject: Fargo Forum Editorial: Put an end to Estrada filibuster

Forum editorial: Put an end to Estrada filibuster
The Forum - 03/09/2003

Notably absent among senators who voted to break a filibuster over the nomination of Miguel Estrada to the nation's most important federal circuit court were North Dakota Democrats Kent Conrad and Byron Dorgan and Minnesota Democrat Mark Dayton.

Their opposition to the highly qualified Estrada might make political sense as the nation moves toward a presidential campaign, but it makes no judicial sense. Playing politics with a president's judicial appointments is nothing

new, but doing so with Estrada is a disservice to the judiciary and an insult to an eminently qualified, Harvard-educated, Hispanic American..

Fact is, most Democrats in the Senate don't like Estrada because (horrors!) he might be a conservative. But really, who knows? That much-reviled liberal Earl Warren was a conservative from California who was appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court by President Eisenhower in 1953. Justice David Souter, allegedly a New Hampshire conservative, was appointed to the high court by George Bush (Sr.), and promptly took his place on the court as a reliable liberal.

If Democrats can block Estrada from a seat on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, they effectively eliminate him from consideration for a seat on the U.S. Supreme Court when a vacancy occurs. It's a foolish strategy that is sure to backfire next time a Democrat occupies the White House.

The rap against the nominee is that he has not been forthcoming enough about his judicial philosophy. That's nonsense that was blown away a few days ago when Sen. Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn., cited a long litany of questions from members of the Senate Judiciary Committee that were answered in eyes-glazed-over detail by Estrada. Yet, facts did not matter. All but four Democratic senators took their marching orders from Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., whose only priority these days seems to be to embarrass the president. The vote Thursday to continue the filibuster was 55-44. Sixty votes were needed to end it. Estrada received the highest rating the American Bar Association can give. He's been praised by Democrats and Republicans for his work in the Solicitor General's office in Democratic and Republican administrations.

He certainly is as qualified or more qualified than many judges in the federal judiciary. And more is known about him than was known about many nominees, including nominees who were confirmed for the Supreme Court, and most certainly for the circuit courts.

The Democratic obstructionism is blatant politics poorly disguised as cluck-clucking about Estrada's qualifications. It's misuse of the filibuster and abuse of the public trust. Democratic senators including those from North Dakota and Minnesota should abandon the filibuster and allow a Senate vote on the Estrada nomination.

Forum editorials represent the opinion of Forum management and the

newspaper
s Editorial Board

Daniel M. Traynor

Republican State Chairman

Email: dantraynor@ndgop.org

-

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- att1.htm

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

File attachment <P_VPEIE003_WHO.TXT_1>

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Daniel M. Traynor

Republican State Chairman

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