

**Received(Date):** 23 FEB 2003 14:29:20

**From:** "Miranda, Manuel (Frist)" <Manuel\_Miranda@frist.senate.gov> ( "Miranda, Manuel (Frist)" <Manuel\_Miranda@frist.senate.gov> [ UNKNOWN ] )

**To:** "dinh, viet" <viet.dinh@usdoj.gov> ( "dinh, viet" <viet.dinh@usdoj.gov> [ UNKNOWN ] ), "Comisac, RenaJohnson (Judiciary)" <Rena\_Johnson\_Comisac@Judiciary.senate.gov> ( "Comisac, RenaJohnson (Judiciary)" <Rena\_Johnson\_Comisac@Judiciary.senate.gov> [ UNKNOWN ] ), "Benczkowski, Brian A" <Brian.A.Benczkowski@usdoj.gov> ( "Benczkowski, Brian A" <Brian.A.Benczkowski@usdoj.gov> [ UNKNOWN ] ), Brett M. Kavanaugh ( CN=Brett M. Kavanaugh/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] ), Wendy J. Grubbs ( CN=Wendy J. Grubbs/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )

**Subject:** : cantwell

[P\\_GIL3E003\\_WHO.TXT\\_1.htm](#)

##### Begin Original ARMS Header #####

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR:"Miranda, Manuel (Frist)" <Manuel\_Miranda@frist.senate.gov> ( "Miranda, Manuel (Frist)" <Manuel\_Miranda@frist.senate.gov> [ UNKNOWN ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:23-FEB-2003 14:29:20.00

SUBJECT:: cantwell

TO:"dinh, viet" <viet.dinh@usdoj.gov> ( "dinh, viet" <viet.dinh@usdoj.gov> [ UNKNOWN ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO:"Comisac, RenaJohnson (Judiciary)" <Rena\_Johnson\_Comisac@Judiciary.senate.gov> ( "Comisac, RenaJohnson (Judiciary)" <Rena\_Johnson\_Comisac@Judiciary.senate.gov> [ UNKNOWN ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO:"Benczkowski, Brian A" <Brian.A.Benczkowski@usdoj.gov> ( "Benczkowski, Brian A" <Brian.A.Benczkowski@usdoj.gov> [ UNKNOWN ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO:Brett M. Kavanaugh ( CN=Brett M. Kavanaugh/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO:Wendy J. Grubbs ( CN=Wendy J. Grubbs/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

##### End Original ARMS Header #####

----- Original Message -----

From: Paul and Lori G <mailto:(b)(6)>

To: field3@cc.org

Sent: Saturday, February 22, 2003 2:16 PM

Subject: Democrat Opposition to Miguel Estrada Nomination

As encouraged by cc.org, I contacted my Senator asking her to support Miguel Estrada's nomination. Here is her response. Is there any truth to her statements in the 4th and 5th paragraphs, below? I haven't come across any news stories discussing this. These sound like legitimate concerns if they are in fact true. If you would have the time to respond to me, I would really appreciate it. If you're not able to respond, I'll understand. Thank you!

Lori Granberg

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Dear Ms. Granberg:

Thank you for contacting me regarding the nomination of Miguel Estrada to the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals. I appreciate hearing from you.

As you know, Mr. Estrada was nominated to be a judge for the DC Court of Appeals. On January 30, 2003, the Judiciary Committee voted 10 to 9 to approve Mr. Estrada's nomination. The nomination is likely to be considered by the full Senate next week.

As a Senator, I take my responsibility to advise and consent on nominees to the federal judiciary extremely seriously. While I recognize the privilege of the President to select his nominees, I believe it is critical that we conduct a comprehensive evaluation of each nominee's qualifications, since, unlike members of the President's cabinet, federal judges are appointed to lifetime terms and have the responsibility of interpreting our nation's laws in a fair and balanced manner.

While I find some of Mr. Estrada's record admirable, I am extremely concerned about his nomination for several reasons. Because the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals is considered second only to the U.S. Supreme Court in terms of influence over public policy, I have reservations about supporting nominees to this extremely important court who do not have any previous experience on the bench. Without a judicial record to examine, a nominee's hearing testimony and cooperation are even more important. Unfortunately, in his September hearing before the Judiciary Committee, Mr. Estrada refused to answer several critical questions and refused to provide the committee with legal memos that he had prepared in a previous position.

Mr. Estrada's unwillingness to answer the most basic and general questions leave unanswered questions about his ability to interpret and apply the law fairly. I cannot support the precedent of allowing a nominee for an important position to refuse to answer the questions of the United States Senate. Therefore, I do not support Mr. Estrada's nomination. I strongly support the Democratic effort to gain complete answers from Mr. Estrada before voting on this nomination, even though this requires a filibuster.

Again, thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts with me. If I can be of further assistance on this or any other issue, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

Maria Cantwell  
United States Senator  
- att1.htm

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00  
File attachment <P\_GIL3E003\_WHO.TXT\_1>

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United States Senator**