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John J. Healey

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To: Leonard B. Rodriguez/WHO/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: NY post article today

CHUCK'S FULL OF FILI-BLUSTER: GOP

By VINCENT MORRIS and KENNETH LOVETT

February 11, 2003 --

New York Republicans yesterday attacked Sen. Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.) for threatening to filibuster against Miguel Estrada,

a Hispanic lawyer President Bush nominated as a judge.

Gov. Pataki ripped Schumer's "hypocrisy" in an upstate speech.

"Those on the left who talk about immigrants, who talk about America being an inclusive society, are blocking him because he

may not fit their political ideology," Pataki said.

And state GOP Chairman Sandy Treadwell accused Schumer of "petty, partisan political games to prevent this highly qualified

Hispanic-American from becoming a judge."

Former Congressman Herman Badillo hinted he might work against Schumer's re-election, saying, "New York Hispanics will

not forget this next year."

Senate Republicans want a vote on Estrada's nomination tomorrow. It was unclear yesterday if Democrats would block the

vote with a filibuster.

Schumer and other Democrats complain the appeals-court nominee offered no opinion on several hot-button issues.

Estrada is a Washington D.C., lawyer who came to the United States from Honduras as a teenager and graduated from

Harvard Law School in 1986. He has practiced constitutional law and argued 15 cases before the Supreme Court.