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News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas) SH 141 Hart Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-1601

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CONTACT: WALT RIKER, DALE TATE
(202) 224-3135

STATEMENT OF SENATOR BOB DOLE
ON THE NOMINATION OF DOUGLAS HOWARD GINSBURG

MR. PRESIDENT:

WE HAVE JUST LEARNED THAT THE PRESIDENT INTENDS TO NOMINATE DOUGLAS HOWARD GINSBURG OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA TO SUCCEED LEWIS POWELL AS ASSOCIATE JUSTICE OF THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT.

JUDGE GINSBURG IS A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT. HE GRADUATED FROM CORNELL UNIVERSITY AND THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO SCHOOL OF LAW. HE SERVED AS A LAW CLERK TO JUSTICE THURGOOD MARSHALL OF THE SUPREME COURT AND THEN BECAME A TENURED PROFESSOR AT HARVARD LAW SCHOOL. HE HAS AUTHORED A NUMBER OF ARTICLES AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS IN THE FIELD OF ANTITRUST AND REGULATED BUSINESSES. HE JOINED THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IN 1983 AND ROSE TO BE ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR THE ANTITRUST DIVISION. HE WAS APPOINTED TO THE D.C. CIRCUIT BY PRESIDENT REAGAN IN 1986.

AS WE APPROACH THIS NOMINATION, LET US NOT FORGET SOME IMPORTANT LESSONS WE SHOULD HAVE LEARNED FROM OUR EXPERIENCE WITH THE PREVIOUS NOMINEE.

FIRST, THE HEARINGS SHOULD BE SCHEDULED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE SUPREME COURT IS NOW NEARLY ONE MONTH INTO ITS TERM WITH ONE SEAT VACANT. THAT SITUATION ISN'T ACCEPTABLE TO ANYONE, LEAST OF ALL THE OTHER EIGHT JUSTICES ON THE COURT.

FINALLY, LET US REMEMBER THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL LOOK TO US TO SET THE PROPER TONE OF THE DEBATE. I LOOK FORWARD TO THIS PROCESS AS A CHANCE FOR THE SENATE TO RE-ESTABLISH ITS REPUTATION AS THE WORLD'S GREATEST DELIBERATIVE BODY, A REPUTATION I FEAR SUFFERED A BIT IN THE COURSE OF THE LAST NOMINATION.

BARRING MAJOR SURPRISES AT THE HEARINGS, I INTEND TO SUPPORT JUDGE GINSBURG, AND WOULD ENCOURAGE MY COLLEAGUES TO DO SO AS WELL.