

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 1986

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DOLE TO MOVE QUICKLY ON REHNQUIST, SCALIA

WASHINGTON -- Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole reaffirmed today his intention to move promptly to the Senate floor the Supreme Court nominations of William Rehnquist and Antonin Scalia, as previously announced on August 15.

The Majority Leader has scheduled Senate consideration to begin as soon as the Senate returns from its recess, most likely Tuesday, September 9.

"Four Democratic Senators wrote to Senate Judiciary Chairman Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.) yesterday requesting that he make an additional request to the FBI to investigate further the claims of Harold Dickerson Cornell, a brother-in-law of Justice Rehnquist concerning a long-standing family dispute. These claims were known to the committee prior to its favorable vote on August 15, as were the results of the FBI investigation. The Cornell story was reported as early as August 2 in the Los Angeles Times and was reported again by the New York Times on August 15."

"Now the claims are being rehashed by Senators who already voted against the nomination in Committee in a last ditch attempt to delay the nominations," Dole said.

"My staff and I have reviewed the allegations and the FBI report. Based on my understanding of the matter, there is no reason to delay Senate consideration. The claims involve a long-standing family dispute by an alienated family member."

"These allegations do not bear whatsoever on Justice Rehnquist's legal abilities nor his fitness to be Chief Justice. It is most regrettable that the matter should even be made public."

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