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BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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DOLE SUPPORTS KANSAS NOMINEE FOR U.S. CLAIMS COURT

WASHINGTON - Senator Bob Dole (R-Ks) today appeared at the Senate Judiciary Committee for the hearing of Raymond C. Clevenger, III, nominated by President Bush to the United States Claims Court. Clevenger is originally from Topeka. The following is Senator Dole's statement:

MR. DOLE. MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE, IT IS A PLEASURE TO INTRODUCE RAYMOND C. CLEVENGER, A NATIVE OF TOPEKA, KANSAS, NOMINEE TO SERVE AS UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE FEDERAL CIRCUIT.

I HAVE KNOWN RAY AND HIS FAMILY FOR MANY YEARS. EARLY IN MY CAREER AS AN ELECTED OFFICIAL, I CAME TO KNOW HIS FATHER, CHARLES, A TOPEKA BANKER AND COMMUNITY LEADER. I ALSO REMEMBER HIS MOTHER, MARY MARGARET, MOTHER OF THREE SONS, AS A ROLE MODEL FOR WOMEN LEADERS.

RAY, A STRAIGHT "A" STUDENT IN THE TOPEKA PUBLIC SCHOOLS, CAME EAST TO WIN HIGHEST HONORS AS AN UNDERGRADUATE AND IN THE LAW SCHOOL AT YALE UNIVERSITY. HE SERVED AS A LAW CLERK TO JUSTICE WHITE AND THEN BEGAN A LONG, DISTINGUISHED CAREER AT THE LAW FIRM OF WILMER, CUTLER AND PICKERING IN WASHINGTON.

FOLLOWING A TWO-YEAR RESIDENCY IN THE LONDON OFFICE OF HIS FIRM, RAY RETURNED TO THE WASHINGTON OFFICE WHERE, AS A SENIOR PARTNER, HE HAS SPECIALIZED IN A NUMBER OF AREAS RELATED TO BUSINESS LAW.

STATE ON A REGULAR BASIS FOR MORE THAN TWELVE YEARS, TO SERVE ON THE BOARD OF THE FAMILY BUSINESS.

FOR A LONG TIME, RAY HAS EXPRESSED A STRONG DESIRE TO CONCLUDE HIS LEGAL CAREER WITH GOVERNMENT SERVICE. PRESIDENT BUSH HAS MADE A WISE CHOICE. RAY BRINGS A LIFETIME OF EXPERIENCE IN COMMERCIAL LAW TO THE NATION'S LEADING APPELLATE COURT.

MR. CHAIRMAN, I ENDORSE RAY CLEVENGER, A KANSAS SON, WITHOUT RESERVATION AND ENCOURAGE SWIFT AND UNANIMOUS APPROVAL BY THE COMMITTEE.

The United States Claims Court is composed of 16 judges who are appointed for 15-year terms by the President. The court has jurisdiction to render money judgments upon any claim against the United States founded either upon the Constitution, or any act of Congress or any regulation of an executive department. It also has juisdiction over cases involving patents and copyrights.