

Wisconsin Family Ties, a non-profit organization that provides information and support to families with children that have mental, emotional and behavioral disorders; as a board member of the Family Violence Center in Green Bay; and as a board member of Legal Services of Northeast Wisconsin, a non-profit organization that provides legal services for the poor.

I have every confidence that William Griesbach will serve with distinction on the Federal district court for the District of Wisconsin.

Mr. KOHL. Madam President, today is a proud day for the state of Wisconsin. For 10 years we have worked to establish the Green Bay judgeship that makes this day possible. And for far longer, Judge Griesbach has developed the ability, gained the experience and cultivated the temperament necessary to be the first Federal judge to sit in Green Bay.

We are confident that Judge Griesbach is the right man for the job. He possesses all the best-qualities that we look for in a judge: intelligence, diligence, humility, and integrity.

The Green Bay community has waited a long time for a Federal judge. When Judge Griesbach is sworn in we think they will find it was well worth the wait.

The lawyers who practice in front of Judge Griesbach agree. In a 1998 survey by the Green Bay News Chronicle, Brown County attorneys ranked Judge Griesbach as the best judge in the area. In fact, he was rated first in every category polled, including: temperament; fairness; legal scholarship; work habits; and decisiveness. That is quite a testament to his ability.

So, it came as no surprise that the bipartisan Wisconsin Federal Nominating Commission concluded that Judge Griesbach would make a fine Federal judge. For the past 23 years, Wisconsin has used a nominating commission to select candidates for the Federal bench. Through a great deal of cooperation and careful consideration, and by keeping politics to a minimum, we always find qualified candidates. Judge Griesbach's selection demonstrates that our process has succeeded once again.

The Commission's reasons for his recommendation became apparent when I met him for our interview. He was candid, humble, and thoughtful. He has impressed everyone. He also made a fine impression during his Senate Judiciary Committee hearing.

Judge Griesbach will inaugurate a tradition of fair and well-respected jurists in northeastern Wisconsin. I support Judge Griesbach's nomination and commend our colleagues for supporting this fine judge.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of William C. Griesbach, to be United States District Court Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin? On this question, the yeas and nays have been ordered, and the clerk will call the roll.

Mr. NICKLES, I announce that the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 97, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 96 Ex.]

YEAS—97

Akaka	Durbin	McConnell
Allard	Edwards	Mikulski
Allen	Ensign	Miller
Baucus	Enzi	Murkowski
Bayh	Feingold	Murray
Bennett	Feinstein	Nelson (FL)
Biden	Fitzgerald	Nelson (NE)
Bingaman	Frist	Nickles
Bond	Graham	Reed
Boxer	Gramm	Reid
Breaux	Grassley	Roberts
Bunning	Gregg	Rockefeller
Burns	Hagel	Santorum
Byrd	Harkin	Sarbanes
Campbell	Hatch	Schumer
Cantwell	Hollings	Sessions
Carnahan	Hutchinson	Shelby
Carper	Hutchison	Smith (NH)
Chafee	Inouye	Smith (OR)
Cleland	Jeffords	Snowe
Clinton	Johnson	Specter
Cochran	Kennedy	Stabenow
Collins	Kerry	Stevens
Conrad	Kohl	Thomas
Corzine	Kyl	Thompson
Craig	Landrieu	Thurmond
Crapo	Leahy	Torricelli
Daschle	Levin	Voinovich
Dayton	Lieberman	Warner
DeWine	Lincoln	Wellstone
Dodd	Lott	Wyden
Domenici	Lugar	
Dorgan	McCain	

NOT VOTING—3

Brownback	Helms	Inhofe
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The nomination was confirmed.

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, I wanted to make note of a very important fact with regard to judicial nominations. With the confirmation now of the two judges tonight, we have reached an even 50 so far since we have become members of the majority. Forty-one district judges and nine circuit judges have now been confirmed. We have now exceeded the number of judges confirmed in the first year of the Reagan administration, the first Bush administration, and the Clinton administration. We have done that in 10 months, not 12. We will do much more over the course of the next 2 months, but I think it is a record of which we can be very proud. It is a record about which we feel very strongly. It is a record we said we would deliver when we became members of the majority. It is a record I think bears some attention, especially now that we have reached 50 confirmations in this relatively brief period of time.

I yield the floor.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will return to legislative session.

NATIONAL LABORATORIES PARTNERSHIP IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2001

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, I want to take a moment to congratulate, first, the extraordinary effort made by the Chair of the Energy Committee, Senator BINGAMAN. I think he has put more time on the floor in the last few weeks than anybody in recent times. Were it not for his patience and extraordinary willingness to work with all of us, we would not be celebrating the successful conclusion of this work today.

I know I speak for all Senators and congratulate him and commend him for the work and leadership he has shown and for the tremendous contributions he has made to public policy in energy today. I am grateful for his friendship, but I am especially appreciative of his leadership, and I think that ought to be recognized.

I also congratulate the ranking member, the Senator from Alaska, for his efforts as well. I know there may not be any more important legislation from the Senator from Alaska than this one. He has demonstrated a resolve and an extraordinary persistence, and were it not for his efforts and the work he has done, especially in recent weeks, we would not be here as well. So he also deserves special commendation and recognition for the remarkable job he has done.

Finally, as is the case in so many instances, the distinguished assistant Democratic leader deserves recognition. He does not like it when I do this, but I do think it is important for the historical record to note that his constant presence on the floor, his willingness to work with Senators in working through the amendment logjams on so many occasions was absolutely invaluable. So I thank him as well for his constant effort on the floor, but in particular on this bill.

I thank all of our colleagues, and I appreciate very much the work that has been done.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Madam President, before the majority leader leaves, let me return the compliment. This was the Daschle-Bingaman bill we passed in the Senate. It was his leadership that was absolutely essential in getting this to the floor and his continuing leadership in keeping it on the floor. He has devoted 6 weeks of Senate floor time to this bill, and at many crucial points he made absolutely essential decisions to get us to closure.

Let me also indicate what everyone in the Senate knows, and that is without the superb work that Senator REID, our assistant floor leader, does, without his tremendous effort, we could not possibly have completed this work. He was present every day, every hour, moving this bill forward, working with