



***January 27, 2006***

***Majority Leader***

Leader Frist: “Next week, the Senate will stand on principle and say ‘no’ to partisan obstruction of judicial nominees and ‘yes’ to a fair up-or-down vote for Judge Alito. Today, we are seeing growing, bipartisan support for this eminently qualified nominee.”

***Senator Reid: Where do you stand?***

- **Reid won't support filibuster on Alito**, ASSOCIATED PRESS, January 27, 2006
  - Mr. Reid: “There has been adequate time for people to debate. No one can complain in this matter that there hasn't been sufficient time to talk about Judge Alito, pro or con.”
- Fox reporting **Reid to Support Filibuster**, FOX, January 27, 2006
  - “John Kerry was trying to get a filibuster going. Senator Reid did not seem to be on board with that that. This morning he seems to be couching his language just a little bit, saying that he would vote to sustain a filibuster should opportunity come around . . . .”
- **Reid admits US Democrats can't block Alito**, REUTERS, January 27, 2006
  - Mr. Reid: “Everyone knows there is not enough votes to support a filibuster.”

***Democratic Support for Judge Alito is Increasing***

- **Senator Robert Byrd, January 26, 2006:**  
On Process: “Obviously, something is wrong with our judicial nomination process, and we in the Senate have the power to fix it.”

On his support for Judge Alito: “I have voted against judges on both sides of the political spectrum . . . . My considered judgment [of Judge Alito], from his record, from his answers to my own questions, from his obvious intelligence, and from his obvious sincerity, leads me to believe him to be an honorable man, a man who loves his country, loves the Constitution, and a man who will give of his best. Can we really ask for more?”

- **Senator Kent Conrad, January 27, 2006:**

On Filibustering Judge Alito: “I will not participate in a filibuster of Judge Alito's confirmation to the Supreme Court. I do not believe it is warranted. . . . We should have a simple up-and-down vote by the full Senate. . . . I am leaning in favor of voting for Judge Alito.”

- **Senator Tim Johnson, January 26, 2006**

On his Support for Judge Alito: “I must conclude that Judge Alito possesses a high level of legal skill, is a man of solid personal integrity, and that his views fall within the mainstream of contemporary conservative jurisprudential thinking. . . . I will oppose any effort to filibuster his nomination and I will vote to confirm Judge Alito's nomination to the Supreme Court.”

- **Senator Ben Nelson, January 17, 2006**

On his Support for Judge Alito: “I have decided to vote in favor of Judge Samuel Alito to serve as the 110th Justice of the United States Supreme Court. I came to this decision after careful consideration of his impeccable judicial credentials, the American Bar Association's strong recommendation and his pledge that he would not bring a political agenda to the Court.”