

NEWS RELEASE

Melissa Martin Cartano, Chairman of the Montgomery County Republican Central Committee, announced today that the Committee has passed a resolution supporting President Bush's nomination of Judge Clarence Thomas to the United States Supreme Court. As a part of their endorsement the members stated:

We are proud of his personal and professional past and feel confident that his experience within the American scheme has created an individual to be admired and respected. We believe that he is an honorable and well qualified individual who is deserving of the appointment. His experience, objectivity and knowledge will benefit all Americans. Therefore, we believe that Judge Clarence Thomas deserves confirmation for appointment to the Supreme Court.

The Montgomery County Republican Central Committee consists of 19 members elected to represent the 120,807 registered Republican party voters who live in Montgomery County.

August 28, 1991

Mr. JENKINS. The Montgomery County Black Republican Council voted unanimously in support of Clarence Thomas to the Supreme Court. We commend President Bush for his selection of a fiercely independent-minded individual who has demonstrated many qualities that distinguish him as a person who is highly qualified to serve on the highest court in the land.

Judge Thomas has a broad and diversified legal career, including assistant attorney general in Missouri, corporate lawyer for Monsanto Co., congressional staffer, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights for the Department of Education, and appellate judge for the District of Columbia court. Throughout his life and legal career, he has modeled himself on the American dream by progressing through increasingly challenging assignments and carrying out each one very effectively.

During the early years of his life in Georgia, Judge Thomas did not have many of life's comforts and material possessions. However, and perhaps more importantly, he was blessed to have grandparents and religious counselors who taught him the value of hard work, personal integrity, self-discipline, and obdurate perseverance.

In taking to heart these lessons and seizing all available opportunities provided by law, Judge Thomas achieved much of his dream and now stands as a paragon of success in his community and the Nation.

Reflecting on the various experiences and values ascribed to Judge Thomas, we find that many Americans share with him some of the same basic values—respect for and belief in family, religious commitments, dedication to education and being well prepared for opportunities when they come to you, lifelong appreciation of family and teachers who help develop one's character, and an abiding sense of self-help when challenges occur.

Judge Thomas said in a previous confirmation hearing that he had become a lawyer to ensure that minorities were not excluded from opportunities to prosper in our society. He also said that he may differ with others on how best to do that, but the objective has always been to include those who have been excluded.

We have done some research and there are a number of his actions that we would want to submit and include for the record.

The **CHAIRMAN.** They will be included.

Mr. JENKINS. There have been many articles in the media concerning Judge Thomas. Some have been supportive and some have been critical, and an issue of whether blacks would support his nomination has been ever-present. It is noteworthy that some have opposed this nomination, and based on recent polls there have been indications that at least 58 percent of American—blacks approve the nomination of Judge Thomas to the Supreme Court. I represent a group of African-Americans that unanimously support Judge Thomas.

Gentlemen, Clarence Thomas, a product of the unique American experience, now seeks your confirmation. We, the Montgomery County, Maryland, Black Republican Council, support the nomination of Judge Thomas as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, and believe that he has the moral fortitude, intellect, breadth of experience, and regard for the appropriate interpretation of the Constitution. In view of these prime requirements for a

Supreme Court Justice, we urge the Senate to confirm Judge Thomas.

Thank you for the opportunity.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Jenkins follows:]