

--For Immediate Release--

From the Office of U.S. Congressman Joe Wilson  
Representing the Second Congressional District of South Carolina

November 12, 2003

## **Wilson Applauds Senator Lindsey Graham for Fighting Against Democrat's Stall Tactics on Judges**

*Washington, D.C. - Today, Congressman Joe Wilson (R-S.C.) applauded Senator Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) for standing strong against Senate Democrats' efforts to prevent President Bush's judicial nominees from receiving a vote on the Senate floor.*

“Since President Bush has taken office, Democrats have been playing petty partisan tricks with his thoroughly qualified judicial nominations. Senator Lindsey Graham has been a leader in fighting to end this blatant abuse of our judicial confirmation process. The Democrats undemocratic obstruction of judicial nominees is unprecedented in more than 200 years of American history, and South Carolinians should be proud that Senator Graham is fighting to restore normalcy to Washington, D.C.”

Prior to this year, the record number of cloture votes on a judge was two. On DC Circuit Court nominee Miguel Estrada, the Senate had *seven* cloture votes before Estrada withdrew his name due to exhaustion.

**Prior to this year, no judicial nominee brought to the Senate floor ever failed on a filibuster.** This year, four nominees **with majority support** have thus far failed due to Democrat filibusters (Miguel Estrada, Priscilla Owen, William Pryor, and Charles Pickering), and Democrats have threatened filibusters on many more nominees.

“My constituents consistently tell me about their disgust over the way Senate Democrats are blocking even simple up-and-down votes on judges.” said Congressman Wilson. “Senator Graham and the Republican majority in the Senate understand the importance of a working judicial confirmation process. Thanks to the partisan games of Democrats, that historic process has broken down.”

Today, Wednesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00pm, the Senate will begin a historic, non-stop debate on judicial nominations, the first such all-nighter in more than 11 years. Republicans organized this overnight debate to bring national attention to Democrat delay tactics-which are now spilling over into the appropriations process as well.

###