

the great jurists of this Nation. It is not my place to restate or add to that which is already before the committee. I simply want to endorse this nominee in the strongest possible terms.

Mr. Chairman, I also ask unanimous consent that the statement of the distinguished senior Senator from Arizona, Mr. Goldwater, be placed in the record at this point. Senator Goldwater is unable to be here today. I know that Barry has always felt very proud of Mr. Justice Rehnquist and helped him get his start in Arizona politics many years ago. If he could have possibly been here today, he would have been.

The CHAIRMAN. I now call on the other Senator from Arizona, Senator DeConcini.

**STATEMENT OF HON. DENNIS DeCONCINI, A U.S. SENATOR FROM
THE STATE OF ARIZONA**

Senator DeCONCINI. Mr. Chairman, and my distinguished colleagues on the Judiciary Committee, let me assure you that this will suffice for my opening statement and it is not a long one, so you can applaud if you want to, or you can go to sleep, as the case may be.

I am honored to be here, to introduce to this committee, for those of you who may not know, the Honorable William Rehnquist. He is the President's nomination, as you know, to be Chief Justice, as a matter of fact, the 16th. Justice Rehnquist appeared before this committee, as the record shows, some 15 years ago. He was confirmed by the U.S. Senate as an Associate Justice.

For that reason, I would like only to briefly outline Justice Rehnquist's career as his credentials and achievements are already quite well known to anyone on this committee, but I feel it important, at this beginning point, that they be reiterated.

After growing up and attending high school in Milwaukee, WI, William Rehnquist enlisted in the U.S. Army and served in the Air Corps as a weather observer from 1943 to 1946. After an honorable discharge, he attended and graduated with distinction from Stanford University.

During college he was elected to membership in Phi Beta Kappa. He received a master's of arts degree in Political Science from Harvard University in 1950. Justice Rehnquist finished first in his class at Stanford Law School in 1952. After graduating from law school he served as a law clerk for Justice Robert H. Jackson on the Supreme Court of the United States until June 1953.

From 1953 until 1969, Justice Rehnquist worked at a variety of firms in Phoenix, AZ, in private practice. In 1969 he was confirmed by the Senate as Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Office of Legal Counsel at the Department of Justice.

In 1971, at the age of 47, Justice Rehnquist's appointment to the Supreme Court of the United States was confirmed by the U.S. Senate.

Justice Rehnquist has established a reputation in the last 15 years as an energetic, efficient, hard-working member of the Court.

He is widely acknowledged as a writer of exceptional ability. He is well organized, and with polished opinions, with forcefulness of logic and expression, long on collegiality, and organization, are a requirement, Justice Rehnquist has it. I believe an immense talent that he will bring to the Court will serve him well in the administration of the Federal court system.

I know he welcomes the opportunity to direct his talents and energy to the duties of the Chief Justice. Mr. Chairman, I am very pleased with the statement issued by the ranking member, our friend and colleague, Joe Biden, to address this hearing with an open mind, with a feeling that, certainly, there is a burden to prove qualifications, but, to look at it without a predisposed judgment as to this nominee.

Indeed, these are prerogatives that we all face, and a great responsibility, but I firmly believe that this man has proven, by his expert conduct on the Court as an Associate Justice, that he can fill the position that he has been nominated to. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Also, I wish to place a letter in the record.

[Letter follows:]

PHOENIX, AZ,
July 29, 1986.

DEAR DENNIS: Thank you for your nice letter.

I notice in this morning's paper they have the FBI investigating Bill Rehnquist's poll watching activities in the early 1960's, and several very unfair statements have been made by various individuals.

Could I ask you to read my letter to the Judiciary Committee.

As you know I am a Democrat but my politics has never influenced me as a newspaperman and for many years I covered politics for The Arizona Republic. Historically—from the late 30's when I started covering politics, until the 60's when party strength in Arizona became equalized—there were many rumors and accusations of improper voting in South Phoenix. These rumors included such things as voting dead people, voting people who had moved, wholesale registering and voting of illiterates, etc.

Starting in the 1950's, the Republicans started poll-watching and challenging in that area. It was particularly active when Dick Kleindienst was state chairman and I think that is when Bill was active in the party. I remember the GOP was very active with teams of poll watchers and as a result a good many irregularities were uncovered and corrected.

I do not agree with Bill on some things but I must say this, and add that he always was a fine gentleman and I don't think he would unnecessarily harrass any individual. At that time you had to be able to read the Constitution to qualify to vote and I am sure some who could not read probably felt intimidated if they had been registered.

Sincerely,

BEN AVERY.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much, Senator DeConcini. The distinguished and able Senator from Virginia. Senator Warner.

STATEMENT OF HON. JOHN WARNER, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF VIRGINIA

Senator WARNER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and members of the committee. I shall follow the lead of the majority leader and submit my statement for the record, but I would like to add that we, in Virginia, are privileged to have him as a resident. I was honored to have my friend, of many years, ask that I appear on his behalf today, and I think I can best summarize my view, and that I think of the majority of Virginians, by saying that his judicial philosophy is predicated on courage, and it has as its foundation the Constitution of the United States.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the statement by the distinguished Senator from Virginia will be placed in the record.

[The prepared statement follows:]