

Mr. CLYBURN. No, Senator, I do not. I think it is kind of interesting, if I may, that questions raised about the sole issue of affirmative action, every debate I have ever had with Clarence Thomas on this subject has always convinced me that he believes in affirmative action as a concept, very strongly. He has real problems with methodology, and there is difference of opinion as to what the methods ought to be.

Our of fairness to him, I think we ought to take into account, Senator Simon, that what Clarence has said time and time again is that race ought to be but one factor, that's the threshold that ought to be crossed, and after that threshold is crossed, then he thinks other things ought to kick in, in order to determine whether or not affirmative action ought to take place. So, I think that is a little bit different from what people seem to say as being against affirmative action.

Senator GRASSLEY. Senator Simon, I am through.

Senator SIMON. We thank the witnesses very much for being here. We appreciate you taking the time and also your patience in sitting through a lot of the hearings here.

Senator Biden wants to be here for the next panel, but we would ask Mr. Buchanan, Mr. Chambers, Mr. Rauh and Ms. Hernandez, if all four of you could come to the podium. Mr. Lucy is also on this next panel.

Senator Biden is on his way over here, and we will just take a 2-minute recess until he gets here.

[Recess.]

The CHAIRMAN [presiding]. The meeting will come to order.

Our seventh panel this morning, talk about optimism—when the staff wrote this, they said the seventh panel this morning—the seventh panel is one of our most distinguished panels that has come to testify in opposition to Judge Thomas, and includes John Buchanan, a former Congressperson, now the Policy Chair of People for the American Way. John, you have not only been here today, I have observed you have been here I think every day from the outset.

Julius Chambers, on behalf of the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund. I read your statement, Mr. Chambers, and you sure did a whole heck of a lot of work on going back and going through all of the former Justices, when they were appointed and how old they were, and I am anxious to hear what you have to say.

A man who is not at all unfamiliar to this committee, one of the distinguished lawyers in the Nation, Joseph L. Rauh, Jr. Joe is known to everyone on this committee and has been here on almost every important issue in the last couple of years.

Antonia Hernandez, on behalf of the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Education Fund and the Alliance for Justice.

And Mr. William Lucy, president of the Coalition of the Black Trade Unionists, and secretary-treasurer for the American Federation of State and County Municipal Employees. It is good to see you, Bill.

Again, I was told by Senator Thurmond that, in my absence, Senator Simon ran a tough ship. He said he got it done, he said he got everybody in in 5 minutes and limited Senators' questions. See even the stenographer smiling over there. So that there is not a re-