

Senator HEFLIN. Thank you, Dr. Becton.

I understand that Senator Biden wants some questions, but I will go ahead right now.

Senator THURMOND, do you have some questions?

Senator THURMOND. I haven't asked any.

Senator HEFLIN. I think we would excuse you, Dr. Becton, if you—of course, the choice is yours—if you want to make that plane.

Mr. BECTON. I certainly would like to make that plane because I have a board to face tomorrow morning in Texas.

Senator HEFLIN. Well, we will be glad to excuse you, and we thank you for your testimony.

Mr. BECTON. Thank you.

Senator HEFLIN. Senator Thurmond?

Senator THURMOND. Thank you very much.

I want to welcome this panel here. I think you all made excellent statements, and I appreciate your taking the time to come here and testify on behalf of Clarence Thomas for the Supreme Court.

Now, without going into a lot of detail, I want to ask you the same two questions I have asked many times through these hearings. Do you feel that Clarence Thomas has the integrity, the professional competence, and the judicial temperament to make a good member of the U.S. Supreme Court?

If you will answer that, Dr. Jenkins. I then would ask Ms. Thomas.

Mr. JENKINS. I do, Senator.

Ms. THOMAS. I do, Senator.

Senator THURMOND. The other question is do you know of any reason why Clarence Thomas should not be confirmed by this Committee and the Senate for the Supreme Court?

Mr. JENKINS. I do not, Senator.

Ms. THOMAS. I do not, Senator.

Senator THURMOND. Are you convinced from all that you know about Clarence Thomas that he is well qualified to be an excellent member of the Supreme Court of the United States?

Mr. JENKINS. Yes, we do, Senator.

Ms. THOMAS. Yes, Senator.

Senator THURMOND. That is all the questions I have. I want to thank you very much for your appearance here. I think you made good witnesses.

The CHAIRMAN. I thank you very much, and I personally apologize for not being here. I was on the—right inside that door there is a little phone booth, and I was on the telephone doing what I am sure a lot of parents are doing, responding to a call from my son in college. He called, he wanted to know if he should send me money. That was the reason for the call. [Laughter.]

But I sincerely apologize.

And I know, Chancellor, you fully understand about college students.

Mr. JENKINS. Yes, sir, I fully understand.

The CHAIRMAN. But I do appreciate your testimony. Thank you both. Ms. Thomas, thank you very much for coming and taking the time. Appreciate it.

Our next panel—