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KYL STATEMENT ON SOTOMAYOR NOMINATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Senate Republican Whip Jon Kyl, a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, made the following statement today regarding the nomination of Sonia Sotomayor to be an Associate Justice on the U.S. Supreme Court:

"I congratulate Judge Sotomayor on her nomination to the United States Supreme Court.

"Each member of the Senate has a constitutional duty to scrutinize judicial nominees before deciding whether to support their confirmation, and I will take great care in examining her record to ensure that she demonstrates personal integrity, a commitment to the rule of law, and a judicial temperament.

"To that end, when John Roberts was first nominated on July 19, 2005, and subsequently re-nominated to be Chief Justice on September 6, 2005, Senate Republicans afforded the minority ample time to adequately examine his background and qualifications before he received a confirmation vote 73 days later.

"When Samuel Alito was first nominated on October 31, 2005, the minority was afforded 93 days before he received a confirmation vote on January 31, 2006.

"I would expect that Senate Democrats will afford the minority the same courtesy as we move forward with this process."

Sen. Jon Kyl is the Senate Republican Whip and serves on the Senate Finance and Judiciary committees. Visit his website at www.kyl.senate.gov.

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