

and the minority of Senators who were refusing to move my nominees along to be fair and just give them a vote. They can express their opinions about whether or not they think these judges are qualified. Obviously, I think they are. They can argue about their judicial temperament, and that's a fine debate. But for fairness' sake, give them a vote, up or down.

The people of Michigan must know that six good, decent Michiganders who are ca-

pable people are not being allowed to serve their State on the Federal benches because of politics being played in Washington, DC.

Thank you for giving me a chance to come by and discuss this very important issue. I appreciate it.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:50 p.m. at the Oakland County International Airport.

Memorandum on Designation of Officers of the Environmental Protection Agency July 7, 2004

Memorandum for the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency

Subject: Designation of Officers of the Environmental Protection Agency

By the authority vested in me as President under the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America and pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, 5 U.S.C. 3345 *et seq.* (the "Act"), I hereby order that:

Section 1. Order of Succession.

During any period in which the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (Administrator), the Deputy Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, and the officers designated by Executive Order 13261 of March 19, 2002, entitled, "Providing an Order of Succession in the Environmental Protection Agency and Amending Certain Orders on Succession," as amended, to perform the functions and duties of the Administrator have died, resigned, or otherwise become unable to perform the functions and duties of the office of Administrator, the following officers of the Environmental Protection Agency, in the order listed, shall perform the functions and duties of the office of Admin-

istrator, if they are eligible to act as Administrator under the provisions of the Act, until such time as at least one of the officers mentioned above is able to perform the functions and duties of the office of Administrator:

Regional Administrator, Region I; and
Deputy Regional Administrator, Region IV.

Section 2. Exceptions.

- (a) No individual who is serving in an office listed in section 1 in an acting capacity, by virtue of so serving, shall act as Administrator pursuant to this memorandum.
- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of this memorandum, the President retains discretion, to the extent permitted by the Act, to depart from this memorandum in designating an acting Administrator.

Section 3. Prior Memorandum Superseded.

This memorandum supersedes the Presidential Memorandum of March 19, 2002, entitled, "Designation of Officers of the Environmental Protection Agency."

GEORGE W. BUSH

Satellite Remarks to the League of United Latin American Citizens Convention

July 8, 2004

Hector, thank you very much. I appreciate so very much the invitation to take part in your celebration of the 75th anniversary of LULAC. And I'm so honored to speak to members of America's oldest leading Latino civil rights organization.

Listen, you picked a great place for your convention, Hector. San Antonio and Texas are—San Antonio is a wonderful city, and Texas, of course, is a great State. And thanks for giving me a chance to speak to you.

I appreciate—listen, one of the reasons I enjoy working with LULAC so much is I appreciate your commitments to freedom and to entrepreneurship and to the values of *familia y fe*, which help to make our society a stronger place. And what I believe is those commitments deserve recognition and respect of all of our Americans. See, we share the same goal: We will keep working to make this Nation a welcoming place for Hispanic people, a land of opportunity *para todos* who live here in America.

And so, thanks, Hector. I appreciate your leadership, and I want to thank your friendship. It is good to see you via video, and I appreciate you working closely with my administration. I want to thank Ken Cole for the introduction as well, and I want to thank you for sponsoring this important gathering of American leaders.

I also want to thank people there who are representing my administration. I know that Tommy Thompson is with you. He's doing a fantastic job in running the Department of Health and Human Services. Thank you for being in Texas, Tommy, and thanks for the job you're doing on behalf of all America.

I also see a great Texan and great American, a person who greeted me at the base of the stairs of Air Force One when I snuck off from Texas last Thanksgiving to go say

thanks to our troops in Baghdad, Iraq, and that, of course, is General Rick Sanchez. General Sanchez, God bless you, sir, and thank you for your great service to America.

You know, when I think of General—when I think of the story of Rick Sanchez, it reminds me that America is the Nation of the open door and must remain that way. Every generation of our history has brought new immigrants and new stories. And those immigrants have brought great strengths. When men and women arrive here ready to work hard or care for their families and honor the law, they make our country more, not less, American. And Rick Sanchez's history and his family history reminds me of that aspect of our country.

You see, in the United States our aspirations matter more than our origins. And my administration is committed to this basic principle: *El Sueno Americano es para todos*. And all deserve a chance to achieve the American Dream.

Success in America, of course, depends on personal effort. I believe that a compassionate Government should encourage and reward that effort. An opportunity society must educate every single child, encourage a spirit of enterprise, treat immigrants with fairness and respect. I believe America has made progress in all these areas, and I want you to know I look forward to working with LULAC to do more.

The first commitment of an opportunity society is a good public school in every neighborhood. To succeed and rise in the world, a student must know the basics of reading and math. Parents are entitled to expect these basics from their schools. I believe strongly, every school has a duty to teach the basics.

My judgment is, too many children in America have been just shuffled through the system without learning essential