

**Received(Date):** 22 APR 2003 16:15:51  
**From:** Robert McConnell <RMcConnell@hyi-usa.com> ( Robert McConnell <RMcConnell@hyi-usa.com> [ UNKNOWN ] )  
**To:** Brett M. Kavanaugh ( CN=Brett M. Kavanaugh/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
**Subject:** : Seeking reassurance - - is there any to be had?  
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CREATOR:Robert McConnell <RMcConnell@hyi-usa.com> ( Robert McConnell <RMcConnell@hyi-usa.com> [ UNKNOWN ] )  
CREATION DATE/TIME:22-APR-2003 16:15:51.00  
SUBJECT:: Seeking reassurance - - is there any to be had?  
TO:Brett M. Kavanaugh ( CN=Brett M. Kavanaugh/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN  
##### End Original ARMS Header #####

Before the completion of the Senate Judiciary Committee markup of S. 274, the class action reform proposal, and the beginning of the current congressional recess I had started developing a sick feeling that "our" collective commitment and determination to wage and win the critical war on judicial nominations was loosing enthusiasm in the Senate. There were off hand comments, seemingly missed opportunities to press the case - - signs here and there.

I hoped my feeling was more a product of the influence of difficult efforts to deal with last minute speed bumps in the S. 274 markup than a real deflation of enthusiasm. In my view the cause is so important - - critical to the winning and survival of "our" agenda - - and so winnable and, perhaps for the first time in decades, a cause with the potential for political advantages - - that I assumed I would see things differently when I returned from a week off.

Now, however, catching up on reading, etc., I have seen Bob Novak's reference of last week.

Any thoughts, reassurances, ideas, corrections?

GOP tiring of judicial confirmation battles  
Robert Novak ( archive  
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WASHINGTON -- Senate Republicans are tiring of the battle to confirm contested judicial nominees, indicating that Sen. Edward M. Kennedy's Democratic plan to prevent President Bush from shaping the federal judiciary is succeeding.

Weekly meetings of Republican senators produce increased grumbling. The complaining senators ask the White House and the Republican leadership why they should keep fighting to confirm as appellate judges Washington, D.C., lawyer Miguel Estrada and Texas Supreme Court Justice Priscilla Owen. Not only liberal GOP senators but also some old guard committee chairmen claim this fight is neither important nor politically prudent.

Kennedy's unprecedented plan to block Bush's judicial selections always has been based on the theory that Republican senators soon would tire of the struggle.

Bob

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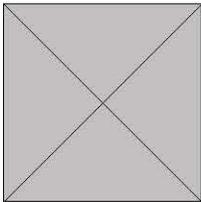
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## **GOP tiring of judicial confirmation battles**

Robert Novak ([archive](#))

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