

Senator Jon Kyl
Senate Judiciary Committee
Hearing on Nominations
October 24, 2018

I first of all want to thank Senator Crapo for chairing this hearing. I am pleased that the Judiciary Committee is continuing the important work of considering potential federal judges for confirmation, and I very much appreciate the leadership and hard work of Chairman Grassley and the other members of the committee. Before retiring from the Senate in 2013, I spent many years on the committee, and I recognize how seriously its members take their important duty to look closely at examine the qualifications and suitability of potential federal judges.

Although I am unfortunately unable to attend today's hearing, I want to welcome Judge Bridget Bade, from my home state of Arizona, who has been nominated to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Bade has had a long and distinguished legal career. Since 2012, she has been a magistrate judge for the District of Arizona. She was an assistant U.S. attorney in Phoenix from 2006 to 2012 and was in private practice from 1995 to 2006. Judge Bade began her legal career as a trial attorney in the U.S. Department of Justice from 1991 to 1995 after clerking for Judge Edith Jones on the Fifth Circuit. She received both her undergraduate and law degrees from Arizona State University. The American Bar Association has acknowledged Judge Bade's fitness for the Ninth Circuit, awarding her the highest possible rating of unanimously well qualified.

While I only recently returned to the Senate, I know that Senator Flake and Senator McCain worked very closely with the administration on Judge Bade's nomination. Upon my appointment to Senator McCain's seat, I was pleased to be able to support Judge Bade's nomination, and I continue to hope that she will be confirmed quickly to the Ninth Circuit.

I would also like to take the opportunity to welcome Richard Hertling, who has been nominated to the Court of Federal Claims and will be testifying on the second panel today. I have known Richard for many years and was his colleague in a Washington law firm until recently. I can speak personally to Richard's commitment to public service and his considerable skill as an attorney. I am confident that Richard will make an excellent addition to the Court of Federal Claims, and I look forward to his quick confirmation.