

## Fair, Up-or-Down Vote for Judge Alito - Qualified, Fair Nominee



### Floor Debate on Judge Alito's Nomination:

- Republicans have tried to ensure a dignified confirmation process, but we are concerned that Democrats are politicizing the process and degrading qualified nominees. During the hearings Senate Democrats tried to tarnish Judge Alito's 30 years of dedicated federal service, but they failed.
- The confirmation process should be about qualifications, but Democrats have made it about politics. Judicial nominees are not politicians running on a platform – the job of a judge is to strictly interpret the law regardless of personal ideology.
- Judge Alito is among the most qualified and responsive Supreme Court nominees in history – he approached each question with an open mind and explained what factors he would consider when ruling on cases. As all nominees should, he was careful not to answer questions that would require him to pre-judge cases, but still answered more than 650 questions in 18 hours of testimony.
- His integrity, temperament and fair-mindedness are unquestioned (ABA gold-standard rating of unambiguously well qualified, endorsement of 7 federal judges).
- We are concerned that Democratic leaders are working to artificially suppress Judge Alito's vote for election-year politicking – that sets a dangerous precedent.
- Republicans have never suppressed votes for Democratic nominees – we gave Clinton nominees Justice Ginsburg or Justice Breyer big votes even though we disagreed with them on many issues.
- The process is broken and needs to be fixed, or we will lose our most qualified candidates. Judge Alito should receive a prompt, up-or-down vote on the floor.

## JUDGE SAMUEL A. ALITO, JR., BIOGRAPHY



- Samuel A. Alito, Jr., was born in April, 1950, in Trenton, New Jersey.
- Alito received his bachelor's degree from Princeton University and attended Yale Law School, where he served as an editor on the Yale Law Journal.
- Alito clerked for Judge Leonard Garth of the Third Circuit.
- From 1977-1980, Alito served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the appellate division, where he argued cases before the circuit court to which he was later appointed.
- From 1981-1985, Alito served as Assistant to the Solicitor General.
- From 1985-1987, Alito served in the Office of Legal Counsel as Deputy Assistant Attorney General where he provided constitutional advice for the Executive Branch.
- From 1987-1989, Alito served as U.S. Attorney for the District of New Jersey, prosecuting white collar and environmental crimes, drug trafficking, organized crime, and violations of civil rights.
- Alito was unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate to serve as U.S. Attorney for the District of New Jersey.
- In 1990, President George H. Bush nominated Judge Alito to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit – Alito was unanimously confirmed by voice vote.
- Judge Alito has participated in thousands of appeals and authored hundreds of opinions.
- Judge Alito has argued 12 Supreme Court cases and argued at least two dozen court of appeals cases and handled at least 50 others.

