

this time, staff tells me I am supposed to recognize Senator Hutchison.

Senator HUTCHISON. Thank you very much, Senator. I can wait. I would rather let Senator Bingaman finish with this wonderful nominee from New Mexico, and then I will go. My markup is at 3:15, so I will be okay, I think, unless you are very long-winded.

Senator CORNYN. Very well. Thank you. I think bipartisanship is breaking out all over, which is a rare thing in the Judiciary Committee, but it is welcome nonetheless.

**PRESENTATION OF JAMES O. BROWNING, NOMINEE TO BE DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO, BY HON. JEFF BINGAMAN, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO**

Senator BINGAMAN. Well, we are glad to bring a change to your Committee. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Let me just second the comments that Senator Domenici already made and indicate that I strongly support this nominee. James Browning is extremely well respected as a lawyer in our State, and I have heard from many of my friends who are practicing law in New Mexico about his reputation for fairness and straight dealing as well. And I think that he comes highly recommended by Republicans, by Democrats, by Independents, by people of all political persuasions, as somebody who will add greatly to the Federal court in our State.

He does have an excellent background, as Senator Domenici indicated. His legal background and his educational background are without blemish. So I strongly recommend him to the Committee, and I urge you to act quickly on his nomination so that we can have a new Federal district judge in New Mexico.

Thank you.

Senator CORNYN. Very good. Thank you, Senator Bingaman.

At this time the Chair will recognize Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison, my colleague and fellow Senator from the State of Texas.

**PRESENTATION OF KATHLEEN CARDONE, FRANK MONTALVO AND XAVIER RODRIGUEZ, NOMINEES TO BE DISTRICT JUDGES FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS BY HON. KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF TEXAS**

Senator HUTCHISON. Well, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am very pleased to have three nominees today for Texas, and I'm also very pleased that these are nominees from the Western District, and especially two from El Paso, which was a new court created by this Senate because of the great backlog and the really huge caseload that we have in the Western District in El Paso. So we are going to fill these judgeships with very qualified nominees.

It is my pleasure to introduce Kathleen Cardone. Kathleen would be serving as a U.S. District Judge for the Western District of Texas. If confirmed, she would preside in El Paso, and she is a New York native who graduated from the State University of New York at Binghamton and St. Mary's School of Law in San Antonio, Texas.