

RELEASE IN PART
B6

From: Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2009 8:46 AM
To: H
Subject: FW: SFRC vote

FYI

From: Rodriguez, Miguel E
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2009 8:35 AM
To: Verma, Richard R; Mills, Cheryl D
Cc: Polt, Michael C
Subject: Re: SFRC vote

I spoke to Jessica Lewis in Reid's office last night. Her recommendation is that we go back to DeMint and restart negotiations on the time agreement for the Shannon debate. She encouraged us to take another stab at it with them. If they continue to drag their feet, we agreed that she would go to Reid and make the argument that it was time to call up the nomination on the floor. Absent an agreement and assuming DeMint pulls out all the procedural stops, the debate could drag on for 3-4 days, something we ought to try to avoid by reaching a time agreement beforehand.

I've called DeMint's staffer to start this process. And I understand D Steinberg is placing a call to DeMint, hopefully today, to set the table.

On Posner [REDACTED] I'll double check where that stands, but that process should be wrapped up by now.

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From: Verma, Richard R
To: Mills, Cheryl D
Cc: Polt, Michael C; Rodriguez, Miguel E
Sent: Thu Sep 10 08:19:28 2009
Subject: Re: SFRC vote

Tom will require a vote. We have been working with the leader's office to reserve the time for debate and a vote. We had such an agreement before the august recess, but senator demint objected. We have since met with demint's staff on two occasions and are moving towards an agreement that would get tom a vote, but that was before the aid cut off decision on honduras. That will make things more difficult, but not insurmountable.

Mike Posner was waiting to get cleared [REDACTED] Harold had weighed in on his behalf and we were hoping this has been or will be wrapped up shortly. He should not have any senate issues, [REDACTED] s him We have been trying to move him since the end of July, and he was poised to be confirmed. [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED] I believe that is all behind us now. Adding Miguel who probably has more up to date info.

From: Mills, Cheryl D
To: Verma, Richard R
Cc: Polt, Michael C
Sent: Thu Sep 10 04:47:28 2009
Subject: Fw: SFRC vote

What is our strategy to get mike and to get tom shannon through?

I met with both today and esp with Tom sense more fatalism than we can accept - do we need to push to a vote?

From: Mike Posner [redacted]
To: Mills, Cheryl D
Cc: Laszczych, Joanne
Sent: Wed Sep 09 22:24:03 2009
Subject: SFRC vote

Cheryl

Thanks for meeting today and for coming up with a formula for getting both [redacted] and [redacted] into DRL. I am excited to have both of them there and to bring in the others as well. I will send you my thoughts on how to configure the leadership with 4 DAS positions and also contact Leah to set up a meeting with her.

As I mentioned there is now doubt about whether the Senate Foreign Relations Committee will have a quorum for next Tuesday's (Sept 15) business meeting. If they don't, the vote on my nomination won't take place until the following Tuesday -Sept 22, which means that I will miss the opening week of UNGA, and also will not be in place to help navigate our initial participation at the UN Human Rights Council. The Council meeting starts on September 14 in Geneva and runs for three weeks.

I believe that Bob Hormats's nomination is also scheduled to be considered at the next SFRC business meeting and I know he also is eager to be on board to help at the G 20 meetings in Pittsburgh.

I would appreciate any assistance you and Secretary Clinton can give us in encouraging Senators Kerry and Lugar to get a quorum in order to hold the September 15 business meeting.

thanks again.

Best

Mike

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Mike Posner

[redacted] office
[redacted] mobile