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A BI-PARTISAN AGREEMENT TO BE PARTISAN – THE “BLUE-SLIP PROCESS!

By Stephen L. Bakke  January 25, 2018



Here's what provoked me:

Senator Grassley is being accused of hypocrisy for choosing to stop the silly, but time-honored practice called the “blue-slip” process. Read on for a very simple explanation, then decide if you agree with Grassley’s attempt to change things a bit.

Here's my response:

A Bi-Partisan Agreement to Be Partisan – The “Blue-Slip” Process!

A January 25 “Your Turn” commentary accused Senator Grassley, GOP Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, of being hypocritical for not honoring the old fashioned “blue-slip” policy whereby Senators are able to block approval of any judicial appointment from their jurisdiction.

It’s true that in prior administrations Senator Grassley has adamantly demanded continued compliance with that traditional practice. And now, it’s true he’s set on ignoring any attempt by Democrats to use the “blue-slip” strategy to block approval of judges. And the Democrats are calling him on the carpet for it.

You make your own choice whether you agree with Grassley, or support the “blue-slip” process. Let me change the direction of the Democrat’s allegations by describing Grassley’s actions differently.

He’s decided to end the absurd yet time-honored tradition of Republicans and Democrats choosing to conduct themselves in a very unhelpful way. In other words, in years past the Senate has had an arrangement whereby Senators made a bi-partisan effort to uh act in a consistently and blatantly partisan manner.