

**United States Court of Appeals
for the Ninth Circuit**

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Chambers of
RICHARD C. TALLMAN
United States Circuit Judge

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June 29, 2006

Hon. Arlen Specter, Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: S. 1845, Circuit Court of Appeals Restructuring and Modernization
Act of 2005, Scheduled for Markup

Dear Mr. Chairman:

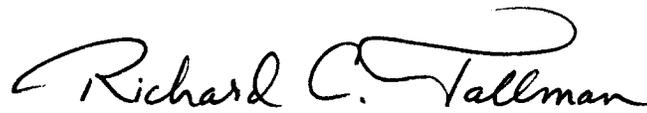
We are United States Circuit and District Judges with chambers throughout the nine states of the Ninth Circuit and we write to express our overwhelming support for your action selecting S. 1845 for Committee consideration and ultimate passage. We are hopeful that through your leadership Congress will pass this important bill and get it to the President as soon as possible. We recognize there are important nominations and other legislative items ahead of S. 1845 on your Committee's agenda, but our hope is that the Bill will receive prompt consideration both in the Committee and by the full Senate so that Congress may act before the end of the year.

As of March 31, 2006, according to the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, our Circuit had over 17,000 cases on the docket, representing 29.4% of all appeals pending in the 12 federal circuits. It has been a long and winding road in our efforts to restore manageability and efficiency to our federal courts here in the West. The Ninth Circuit is once again the slowest of all the federal

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circuits, taking 16 months on average from notice of appeal to final disposition.
The need for action is even more pressing than ever.

Sincerely,



Richard C. Tallman
United States Circuit Judge
Seattle, Washington

cc: Hon. Patrick Leahy
Ranking Member

/s Robert R. Beezer
Senior United States Circuit Judge
Seattle, Washington

/s Robert C. Broomfield
Senior United States District Judge
District of Arizona
Phoenix, Arizona

/s David C. Bury
United States District Judge
District of Arizona
Tucson, Arizona

/s Richard F. Cebull
United States District Judge
District of Montana
Billings, Montana

/s Ferdinand F. Fernandez
Senior United States Circuit Judge
Pasadena, California

/s Lloyd D. George
Senior United States District Judge
District of Nevada
Las Vegas, Nevada

/s Sam E. Haddon
United States District Judge
District of Montana
Great Falls, Montana

/s Cynthia Holcomb Hall
Senior United States Circuit Judge
Pasadena, California

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/s Robert C. Jones
United States District Judge
District of Nevada
Las Vegas, Nevada

/s Andrew J. Kleinfeld
United States Circuit Judge
Fairbanks, Alaska

/s Malcolm F. Marsh
Senior United States District Judge
District of Oregon
Portland, Oregon

/s Frederick J. Martone
United States District Judge
District of Arizona
Phoenix, Arizona

/s Thomas G. Nelson
Senior United States Circuit Judge
Boise, Idaho

/s Wm. Fremming Nielsen
Senior United States District Judge
Eastern District of Washington
Spokane, Washington

/s Diarmuid F. O'Scannlain
United States Circuit Judge
Portland, Oregon

/s Owen M. Panner
Senior United States District Judge
District of Oregon
Medford, Oregon

/s John M. Roll
Chief United States District Judge
District of Arizona
Tucson, Arizona

/s Jack D. Shanstrom
Senior United States District Judge
District of Montana
Billings, Montana

/s Joseph T. Sneed
Senior United States Circuit Judge
San Francisco, California

/s James A. Teilborg
United States District Judge
District of Arizona
Phoenix, Arizona

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/s Stephen S. Trott
Senior United States Circuit Judge
Boise, Idaho

/s Howard B. Turrentine
Senior United States District Judge
Southern District of California
San Diego, California

/s Fred Van Sickle
United States District Judge
Eastern District of Washington
Spokane, Washington