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SENATOR ALAN CRANSTON

STATEMENT BEFORE THE
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
FOR CALIFORNIA JUDGESHIPS

May 15, 1980

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to be able to present to the committee four distinguished Californians who have been named to the federal judiciary by President Jimmy Carter.

Judge Robert P. Aguilar of the San Jose Superior Court who has been nominated to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, and Judge Earl Ben Gilliam of the San Diego Superior Court who has been nominated to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California, were selected through the California judicial screening commission established by me and my distinguished colleage, Senator Hayakawa, and the California Bar Association. I am most pleased to be able to present these two candidates to the committee.

Both are experienced jurists.

Judge Aguilar is a native Californian, born in Madera. He is a graduate of the University of California and attended Hastings College of Law. In 1960, he was admitted to the California Bar and immediately entered private practice in San Jose. He was named to the Superior Court of Santa Clara County in May of last year.

Judge Gilliam is a native of the southwest and was educated in California. He received his law degree from Hastings College of Law in 1957 and joined the San Diego County District Attorney's Office in that year. He practiced law from 1961 to 1963 and served twelve years as Judge of the Municipal Court of San Diego. In 1975, Judge Gilliam was named Superior Court Judge for San Diego County.

I heartily recommend both Judge Aguilar and Judge Gilliam to the committee.

Today the committee also is hearing the nomination of an old friend of mine, William Albert Norris, to be United States Circuit Judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Mr. Norris is a distinguished member of the California Bar. He was an outstanding graduate of Stanford University Law School and served as a Law Clerk to the United States Supreme Court during the 1955 term of the Court. He subsequently joined the law firm of Tuttle & Taylor of Los Angeles and has been a member of the firm until the present.

I am most pleased to be able to introduce to the committee, Mr. Norris. I urge his speedy approval by the committee.