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Alito confirmation prompts mixed reactions

[Andrew Wood](#) at 3:34 PM ET

[JURIST] Tuesday's confirmation of [Judge Samuel Alito](#) [JURIST news archive] as the 110th justice of the Supreme Court of the United States has predictably prompted mixed reactions. President Bush [congratulated Alito](#) [text] in a statement, once again calling him "a brilliant and fair-minded judge who strictly interprets the Constitution and laws and does not legislate from the bench" and concluding that "...he will make all Americans proud as a Justice on our highest court." A spokesperson for the conservative [Family Research Council](#) [advocacy website] hailed the Alito appointment a turning point, putting America on "a course true to our founders' intent." Progressive groups were disappointed, however. The executive director of [Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays](#) (PFLAG) [advocacy website] called the Senate vote "a political appointment railroaded through under extreme protest." Taking an environmental perspective, [Earthjustice](#) [official website] said Alito's appointment poses an immediate threat to the protection of America's drinking water, creeks, streams and wetlands.