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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 29, 1976

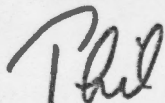
*Judicial Appointments*  
*Erickson, Wm*

Dear Doug:

Thank you for your kind note and for sending me your recommendation concerning Associate Justice William Erickson. I have passed on the information to the Deputy Attorney General and to the Presidential Personnel Office so that it may be given prompt consideration.

Bunny and I send you and Sally our best regards.

Sincerely,



Philip W. Buchen  
Counsel to the President

Mr. Douglas W. Hillman  
430 Federal Square Building  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49502

P.S. My delay in answering your letter occurred because we were in Florida last week, following on your trail.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 29, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE HONORABLE HAROLD TYLER  
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attached is a letter I received from a friend of mine in Grand Rapids recommending Associate Justice William Erickson for appointment to the Federal District Court in Colorado. I consider this recommendation to have come from a well-qualified source.

*P.W.B.*  
Philip W. Buchen  
Counsel to the President

Attachment

cc: Mr. Douglas Bennett



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

June 29, 1976

Dear Nat:

Many thanks for your warm commendation of Justice William Erickson for appointment to the District Court of Colorado. The qualifications of Justice Erickson are well known to all of us and, as you remarked, it may be that he is over-qualified for this particular position.

I am not able to advise you at the present time of the final decision in regard to this appointment, but you can be sure that if another choice is made it will not be because of any doubts about the qualifications of Justice Erickson.

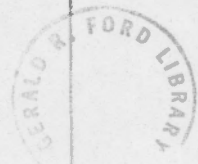
Very best regards.

Sincerely,



Philip W. Buchen  
Counsel to the President

The Honorable Nathan S. Heffernan  
Justice  
Supreme Court  
State of Wisconsin  
Madison, Wisconsin 53702



*Judicial  
Appntmt*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*Judicial  
Appoint*

July 16, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: DOUGLAS BENNETT

FROM: PHILIP BUCHEN *P.*

Attached is a copy of a letter to me from Elliot L. Richardson concerning William H. Erickson for appointment to the U. S. District Court for the District of Colorado.

I would appreciate your advising the Secretary concerning this matter.

Attachment



THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20230

July 12, 1976

Honorable Philip W. Buchen  
Counsel to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Phil:

It has come to my attention that William H. Erickson, Associate Justice of the Colorado Supreme Court, is under consideration for appointment to the United States District Court for the District of Colorado.

As you may know, Bill Erickson was one of the top prospects on my list of candidates for the position of Special Prosecutor (together with Judge Harold Tyler, now Deputy Attorney General) back in May of 1973. I developed a high regard for him then and subsequent associations in a number of different connections have reinforced that regard. Before going on the bench Judge Erickson was an experienced trial lawyer, and I feel sure that he would make an outstanding District Judge.

Sincerely,



Elliot L. Richardson



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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*Jud.  
Appointments*

September 28, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: PHILIP BUCHEN  
FROM: DOUGLAS P. BENNETT *Doug*  
SUBJECT: Attachment

We may have our obstacles to clear but there are others who have problems too.







ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY  
WASHINGTON

23 September 1976

Dear Doug:

I thought you might be interested in a sample of the Colorado press reaction following Haskell's "blue slipping" me.

One is a Denver Post editorial, a paper that was generally supportive of my nomination. The other is from a Democrat paper that has consistently opposed me politically. They both end up at the same place.

Sincerely,

Donald G. Brotzman

Mr. Douglas P. Bennett  
Director  
Presidential Personnel Office  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Done: <i>Doug</i>	Done To:
FYI: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Info To:	
	9/27/76



# THE DENVER POST

Founded on October 28, 1895 by F. G. Bonfils and H. H. Tammen  
Helen G. Bonfils, Officer and Director, 1933-72

*"Dedicated in perpetuity to the service of the people,  
that no good cause shall lack a champion and that  
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Executive Editor*

ROBERT H. SHANAHAN, *Vice President,  
General Manager*

## THE POST'S OPINION

### Senator Haskell a Poor Judge

Sen. Floyd Haskell, D-Colo., has succeeded in killing the nomination of former Colorado Rep. Don Brotzman for a federal judgeship.

Haskell's opposition to the appointment, offered by President Ford, means the Senate Judiciary Committee will not clear the nomination.

This is politics as it is played, of course. The reason for dropping Republican Brotzman is



# Brotzman entitled to hearing

U.S. Senator Floyd Haskell has decided that former Congressman Donald G. Brotzman is "unqualified" for appointment to the federal judiciary. Ergo, Brotzman is zapped.

Haskell, of course, is entitled to his opinion. He may also be right. But, Haskell has more than an opinion. Through perquisites granted as "material courtesy" the senior Senator of

people, a quality which is not measured by law school standing or aptitude in the performance of the more arcane legal duties.

Not all, but a reasonable proportion of federal judges should have been politicians. The judiciary is part of government. Judges are frequently called upon to order government action, witness the school busing cases in