

## Bush backs embattled Gonzales

*by UPI*

WASHINGTON - President George W. Bush on Monday said he has confidence in embattled U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales.

Some members of the Senate Judiciary Committee said after Gonzales appeared before the panel last week -- and repeatedly said he couldn't recall specifics concerning the controversial firings of eight U.S. attorneys last year -- that he should resign.

But Bush said Gonzales' Capitol Hill appearance had "increased my confidence in his ability to do the job."

"As the investigation, the hearings went forward, it was clear that the attorney general broke no law, did no wrongdoing," Bush told reporters at the White House. "And some senators didn't like his explanation, but he answered as honestly as he could. This is an honest, honorable man, in whom I have confidence."

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