

WILLIAM PRYOR ON DIVERSITY

Highlights:

- William Pryor helped block efforts to add more Black justices to the Alabama courts.

Pryor Helped Block Efforts To Add More Black Justices To The Alabama Courts

PRYOR HELPED BLOCK EFFORTS TO ADD MORE BLACK JUSTICES TO THE ALABAMA COURTS

Pryor Helped Jeff Sessions Draft A Legal Memo Designed To Block A Democratic Proposal To Add More Black Judges To Alabama Courts. According to Wall Street Journal, “In 1994, Jeff Sessions, now a U.S. senator and then a Republican candidate for attorney general, sought Mr. Pryor’s advice on how to fight a Democratic proposal to add more blacks to the state’s courts. Mr. Pryor saw a dangerous precedent in the plan, which he argues ‘would have made race a qualification for public office.’ Mr. Pryor drafted a memo outlining the legal arguments against the plan, which Mr. Sessions used virtually verbatim in an objection submitted to the court. The protest failed, but Mr. Pryor had won over Mr. Sessions, who was elected attorney general that fall. And when Mr. Sessions, as attorney general, later led the state’s argument that reversed the plan, he named as his point man his new protégé, Bill Pryor.” [Wall Street Journal, [5/21/97](#)]