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Welcoming Remarks

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PERSPECTIVES ON REGULATORY TAKINGS

WELCOMING REMARKS

JOHN D. FEERICK*

I would like to welcome you to Fordham Law School, and to thank John Beggs, the Editor-in-Chief of our *Environmental Law Journal*, and Thomas Giordano, Song Won Chon, and the other editors of the *Journal* for developing today's program on regulatory takings.

The aim of the program is to present a broad spectrum of viewpoints on regulatory takings. I'm sure you will agree that our *Environmental Law Journal* editors have done an exceptional job in their selection of the participants for today's program. It is a most distinguished group, and we are very grateful to each of the presenters for their participation in this program.

The subject of regulatory takings has been a complex and controversial one for more than a century, and it remains so. The purpose of the program is to bring practitioners, academics, law students and others up to date on recent developments in the field.

The program is divided into four panels. The first two focus on such issues as fairness, the benefits and drawbacks of just compensation, and how the state courts implement Supreme Court decisions. I am very pleased that our distinguished visitor, Professor Frank Michelman, is part of today's program and will be providing a very important constitutional backdrop to the discussion.

The third and fourth panels deal with regulatory takings in the context of practical legal topics. The Endangered Species Act, rent control, and historical preservation were selected because they are timely, involve sensitive issues, and make clear that regulatory takings affect both rural and urban areas.

I wish you a very successful program, and I thank again all of the panelists and their moderators, and I especially thank you who have come here for today's program.

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