



Auto Safety Group • Congress Watch • Energy Program • Global Trade Watch • Health Research Group • Litigation Group
Joan Claybrook, President

Aug. 8, 2007

Dear Senator Biden:

Campaign finance issues evoked some of the most animated responses from the audience at last weekend's Yearly Kos debate, which you did not attend.

We are aware of your strong support for public funding of elections, and are writing to you today with a request that you take certain short-term steps to demonstrate your commitment to reducing the influence of special interest money in elections.

As nearly as we can tell, your campaign has provided no official disclosure of your bundlers. While we cannot be absolutely certain that you are using bundlers – people credited with raising money for your campaign – press reports indicate that you are. In either event, we have yet to receive a response to a series of questions we sent to your campaign in mid-June regarding your bundling disclosure policies.

We observe that George Bush and Dick Cheney, rarely viewed as paragons of transparency, provided far more insight into their campaign's fundraising operations in 2004 than you have thus far offered.

We hope you share our view that transparency is among the best ways to combat the undue influence of special interests. With that in mind, we are asking all of the presidential candidates who are using bundlers to aspire to the highest standards in disclosure of bundling activities by:

- Disclosing bundlers' identities (including cities and states of residence, and employers) on a prominent place on their campaign Web site that is easy for the public to locate;
- Disclosing amounts raised by each bundler within ranges of \$50,000, and promptly updating such information each time a bundler's fundraising exceeds a new threshold; and
- Disclosing the identities of individuals from whom bundlers raise money and the amounts contributed.

If your campaign agrees to these changes, please let us know so that we can update our Web site. Please, contact Research Director Taylor Lincoln at tlincoln@citizen.org or 202-454-5197.

Respectfully,

Laura MacCleery
Director
Public Citizen's Congress Watch