



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

Aug. 8, 2007

Dear Senator Obama:

Public Citizen commends you for your policy of rejecting campaign contributions from registered lobbyists. We share your view that lobbyists have disproportionate influence and welcome your embrace of a voluntary public funding as the real answer to the scourge of special interest influence in Washington.

We also second your comment at last weekend's Yearly Kos convention that "we can take concrete steps right now" to diminish the influence of special interests. And, with that in mind, we are asking you to improve your disclosure of the roles played by all of the bundlers who are raising money for your campaign.

At present, your campaign discloses merely the names of bundlers on the Web, without further identifying information. While your disclosure practices, at present, are the best among the candidates using bundlers, they do not set an exemplary standard.

Your disclosure practices do not, in reality, equal the standard established by George Bush and Dick Cheney in 2004. Unlike Bush and Cheney, your campaign fails to disclose your bundlers' states of residence, how much money they raised (other than to note they raised at least \$50,000), and does not identify who they raised money from.

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](mailto:tlincoln@citizen.org) or 202-454-5197.

Respectfully,

Laura MacCleery  
Director  
Public Citizen's Congress Watch