



Newspapers Around the Country See Through the Republicans' Sham Lobbying Reform Bill

San Antonio News Express

Editorial: Don't fall for GOP's ethics reform sham

May 2, 2006

“Even by Washington standards, the Lobbying Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 is a disgraceful sham...Congress may be under the pall of a historic ethics crisis, but its members — and particularly the GOP leadership — seem intent on conducting business as usual.”

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Editorial: This bill isn't even half a loaf

May 1, 2006

“Politicians are constantly having to decide whether to a) support imperfect measures in the hope that improvements can be made down the road or b) oppose them on the ground that the imperfections are intolerable. Members of the House will make such a choice on Wednesday, when a lobby reform bill comes up for a vote. In this instance, lawmakers should choose option b. The word ‘reform’ does not deserve to be used in connection with this miserable bill.”

St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Editorial: A Race to the Bottom

April 30, 2006

“Republicans in the U.S. House have decided that there's a bright side to high oil prices and continuing problems in Iraq: They distract constituents from getting too worked up about lobbying and ethics scandals. What's left of the House lobby reform bill is barely worthy of the name.”

Philadelphia Inquirer

Editorial: Pretending to Clean Up

April 28, 2006

“The U.S. House’s latest bid to curtail lobbying and ethics abuses will cure corruption in the same way that an aspirin tablet cures baldness. Not so much...Instead of such real reforms, the House is just playing pretend, as is the Senate. The pols hope you’ll fall for it. Don’t.”

Palm Beach Post

Editorial: In Honor of Abramoff

April 27, 2006

“Washington lobbyists lobbied for a weak lobbying reform bill. They got what they lobbied for. Shouldn't that be proof enough that most lobbyists - Jack Abramoff comes to mind - have too much power? Not, apparently, for the Republican leadership that is pushing a watered-down version of already watered-down reform.”