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ONE HUNDRED FIFTH CONGRESS

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

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March 16, 1998

The Honorable Dan Burton  
Chairman  
Committee on Government Reform and Oversight  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: March 12, 1998 Revised Draft Subpoenas to State Democratic Parties

Dear Chairman Burton:

I write to let you know my concerns about the March 12, 1998 revised draft subpoenas which you propose to serve on the State Democratic Parties of Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, and Pennsylvania (the "Revised State Party Subpoenas"). In my March 4 letter, I set out a similar series of concerns to the original State Party Subpoenas which you provided. To date, I have received no response to the points I raised in my March 4 letter.

These Revised State Party Subpoenas continue to include 47 individuals and 24 entities within their scope. It appears that the Revised State Party Subpoenas are word-for-word identical to the earlier subpoenas, except that the Revised State Party Subpoenas seek additional information from the state Democratic parties of Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, and Louisiana relating to their interactions, if any, with Democratic-affiliated entities in Kansas. The Revised State Party Subpoenas also seek information, for the first time, from the state Democratic parties of Maine and New Hampshire pertaining to their alleged interactions with Kansas.

I am mystified by many of these requests. My staff is still aware of no evidence that any of these 70-plus individuals or entities made contributions to the state Democratic parties of the targeted states or to any federal candidates from these states, with the possible exception of federal candidates from California -- as I noted in my March 4 letter. For example, our research indicates that one of the individuals listed on the subpoena, Kenneth Wynn, made contributions to several Republican campaigns, including the Ensign for Senate, Ensign for Congress, Furman for Senate, and Dole for President campaigns, but we are aware of no evidence -- or credible allegation -- that Mr. Wynn contributed monies to any of the state Democratic parties covered by the Revised State Party Subpoenas.

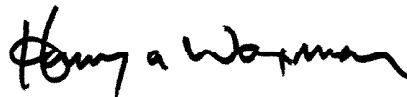
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I therefore request once again an explanation and justification for each of your proposed Revised State Party Subpoenas. These Revised State Party Subpoenas continue to appear to be nothing more than an unnecessary fishing expedition.

Your Revised State Party Subpoenas also still appear to impose an unnecessary burden and expense on the state Democratic parties who will needlessly be tasked with complying with them. If anything, your revisions have served only to increase the burden and expense of compliance from the affected state Democratic parties. The Majority's investigators should be able to acquire all the contribution information it seeks -- to the extent it may exist -- directly from the appropriate state authority which maintains state party contribution records. It is inappropriate to force the various state Democratic parties to bear the cost of responding to these revised subpoenas when all the responsive information you are seeking can be obtained from public sources.

I request that you refrain from issuing the Revised State Party Subpoenas until you have responded to my request for an explanation. In addition, I request that you schedule a Committee meeting so that you can explain to all the Members why these subpoenas are necessary and how they relate to the campaign finance investigation.

Sincerely,



Henry A. Waxman  
Ranking Minority Member

cc: Members of the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight