

Sponsored Links

[San Francisco local mover](#)

Find local movers in San Antonio to move an apartment or an office  
([www.getSanFranciscoOnline.com](#))

[\\$8 OFF SF City Tour](#)

\$18 - \$39 San Francisco City Tours BIG Discounts  
Free Hotel Pick-Up  
([www.GuideYou.com](#))

[San Francisco CA Vacation](#)

Details for sightseeing, camping, recreation and lodging.  
([Go-California.com](#))

RELATED ARTICLES

[WASHINGTON LOBBYING SCANDAL / Abramoff cops plea, faces prison / Length of sentence is likely to depend on his cooperation](#)

January 4, 2006

[Lay off Pombo](#)

January 29, 2006

[Get the House in order](#)

July 11, 2006

RELATED KEYWORDS

- Lobbyist

# Pelosi calls for probe of 2 state Republicans / Democratic leader wants reform after lobbyist scandal

January 13, 2006 | By Edward Epstein, Chronicle Washington Bureau

(01-13) 04:00 PST Washington — **2006-01-13 04:00:00 PST Washington** -- House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi of San Francisco called Thursday for the dormant House Ethics Committee to open investigations of several members tied to lobbyist Jack Abramoff, including two Northern California Republicans, Rep. Richard Pombo of Tracy and Rep. John Doolittle of Rocklin (Placer County).

In a letter to House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., Pelosi also called for Congress to pass sweeping lobbying reform legislation after it returns late this month. She also called for the House to change the new Medicare prescription drug benefit, and to repeal oil and gas industry tax breaks and liability protection for makers of avian flu virus, legislation Democrats cite as examples of laws Republicans passed to cater to industries that are major GOP contributors.

Recommend Confirm   
 0 0   
 Tweet Submit +1

Sponsored Links

[San Francisco Tours](#)

Tours and Cruises in San Francisco, CA. Book Online and Save.  
([www.SanFranciscoTours.us](#))

[San Francisco Tours](#)

Get a great deal on a tour of San Francisco with Tours4Fun.  
([Tours4Fun.com/San-Francisco-Tours](#))

[Bike Over The Golden Gate](#)

New Guided Bike Tour Over Golden Gate Return By Ferry 3.5 Hours.  
([Electric-Bike-Tours.com](#))

Republicans reacted angrily to Pelosi's comment that Democrats, too, have been the

The letter to Hastert represented an intensification of the scandal as dominated by what she calls a "culture of corruption"

phrase 14 times, showing that Democrats plan to use the spreading Abramoff scandal as an issue to try to win back a House majority in the November midterm elections.

Abramoff, a powerhouse Washington lobbyist, has pleaded guilty to corruption charges and he is cooperating with federal prosecutors. His plea helped persuade one of his top House allies, Majority Leader Rep. Tom DeLay, R-Texas, to quit his leadership post.

Among the other members linked to Abramoff are Doolittle, whose wife got a job at a firm associated with the lobbyist, and Pombo, the Resources Committee chairman whose alleged ties to Abramoff included pushing for federal recognition for a Massachusetts Indian tribe that was a client of the lobbyist. Since the scandal erupted, Pombo has donated to charity \$7,000 in Abramoff campaign contributions.

Pelosi also suggested that the Ethics Committee look into DeLay and Rep. Bob Ney, R-Ohio, a member who was referred to obliquely in Abramoff's guilty plea.

"Media stories have contained allegations that each of these members committed egregious violations of

RECOMMENDED FOR YOU   
 **Oakland Mayor Jean Quan slashing salary 25%**   
 Like Confirm THE SLIDE

House rules," Pelosi said in her letter.

Sponsored Links

[Business](#)

Looking For Local Business? Find It Nearby With Local.com!  
([Local.com](#))

[SF Chinatown Tour](#)

Guided 3.5 Hour Evening Tour of Chinatown Including Dinner  
([BuySanFranciscoTours.com](#))

[Free Tours San Francisco](#)

Give us an Hour and we'll give you San Francisco  
([www.discoverwalks.com/sanfrancisco](#))

---

1 | 2 | Next

## OUR WIRELESS FUTURE

Realizing Deployment of Next Generation Broadband Services and Applications to All of America

RSVP



34,800 jobs created?

# THE HILL

Friday, September 16, 2011

GO

Advanced Search Options »

Home/News | News by Subject | Business & Lobbying | Opinion | Capital Living | Special Reports | Jobs | Video |

The Washington Scene

**BLOGS** Congress Blog Pundits Blog Blog Briefing Room Twitter Room Hillicon Valley E2-Wire Ballot Box On The Money Healthwatch Floor Action

Transportation

**THE HILL NEWS ALERTS**  
SIGN UP NOW  
GO

- Home
- Senate
- House
- Administration
- Campaign
- Polls
- Business & Lobbying
- Sunday Talk Shows
- BLOGS**
- Congress Blog
- Pundits Blog
- Blog Briefing Room
- Twitter Room
- Hillicon Valley
- E2-Wire
- Ballot Box
- On The Money
- Healthwatch
- Floor Action
- Transportation

**BUSINESS & LOBBYING**

K Street Insiders

**NEWS BY SUBJECT**

- Defense & Homeland Security
- Energy & Environment
- Finance & Economy
- Technology
- All News by

## Hoyer: "Drain the swamp" not my line

By Jared Allen - 07/27/10 01:21 PM ET

- COMMENT
- EMAIL
- PRINT
- SHARE

House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-Md.) on Tuesday noted that it was Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), not him, who promised to "drain the swamp" of corruption in Washington.

Pelosi famously vowed in 2006 to "drain the swamp" that ensnared Republican members and their leaders during the George W. Bush administration.

During his weekly press conference on Tuesday, Hoyer clarified that he has never used that phrase.

"I didn't use that term," Hoyer said when asked if he thinks Democrats have "drained the swamp." "What I believed and continue to believe is that we have made the ethics process work, and we have made it work in a meaningful way."

Hoyer's office pushed back against reports that his clarification was indicative of any kind of split between him and other Democratic leaders, including the Speaker, saying it was only in response to a question about whether Democrats have been able to "drain the swamp" as they promised to do.

Still, after a year of working seamlessly to pass a difficult agenda through a very ideologically diverse House, Hoyer and Pelosi have recently begun to show signs of divergence. Hoyer earlier this month said policymakers should consider raising the retirement age. He reiterated that position on Tuesday, even though Pelosi last week and again over the weekend clearly indicated she was opposed to the idea.

Pelosi defeated Hoyer in 2001 for the position of House minority whip, and five years later the California Democrat endorsed Rep. John Murtha (D-Pa.) over Hoyer in the race for majority leader. Hoyer easily defeated Murtha, who died in February.

However, Hoyer and the Speaker have worked well together in recent years.

Their complementary styles have helped pass the party's top legislative priorities through a very ideologically diverse House.

Ethics remains an area, though, in which the two leaders seem to have the most

[GO TO THE HILL HOME »](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

### LATEST VIDEOS



Postmaster general: USPS 'not going out of business'



Obama awards Marine the Medal of Honor



Obama pitches jobs bill to Hispanic Caucus



Mica: Napolitano 'needs to go' as Homeland Security Secretary

[More Videos »](#)

### MOST POPULAR STORIES

Most Viewed | Emailed | Discussed

- Dems' fate in NY special sparks '12 fears
- White House initially denies rep.'s request to attend Medal of Honor event
- Boehner slams Obama jobs plan as 'poor

- Subject
- OPINION**
- A.B. Stoddard
- Brent Budowsky
- Lanny Davis
- John Del Cecato
- Ben Goddard
- David Hill
- Cheri Jacobus
- David Keene
- Mark Mellman
- Dick Morris
- Markos Moulitsas (Kos)
- Robin Bronk
- Editorials
- Letters
- Op-Eds
- Juan Williams
- Judd Gregg
- Christian Heinze
- Karen Finney
- John Feehery
- CAPITAL LIVING**
- Gossip: In the Know
- Cover Stories
- Food & Drink
- Announcements
- New Member of the Week
- All Capital Living
- SOCIAL**
- Washington Scene
- VIDEO**
- HillTube
- RESOURCES**
- Mobile Site
- iPhone
- Android
- iPad
- Election 2010
- Lawmaker Ratings
- White Papers
- Classifieds
- Order Reprints
- Last 6 Issues
- Outside Links
- RSS Feeds
- CONTACT US**
- Advertise
- Reach Us
- Submitting Letters

trouble staying on the same page, rhetorically or otherwise.

Aside from Hoyer's unsolicited declaration that he and Pelosi do not share a set of talking points when it comes to the ethics, the recent resignation of another member who was under investigation — former Rep. Eric Massa (D-N.Y.) — showcased a split over how the two handled an ethics scandal.

As reports first began to trickle out on March 2 of this year that Massa's retirement announcement was not, in fact, due to the reemergence of cancer — as the New York Democrat initially claimed — but was more closely tied to charges that he had sexually harassed male members of his staff, Hoyer's press office scrambled to alert media outlets of the back story of Hoyer's direct involvement in bringing about the ethics inquiry of Massa.

Soon after learning in early February that Massa's staff had lodged complaints with Hoyer's office, Hoyer's senior staff immediately told the majority leader. The result was an ultimatum: Alert the ethics committee personally within 48 hours or the majority leader would.

Not only did Hoyer's office go out of its way to explain his level of involvement, the level of involvement itself appears to have differed significantly from that of the Speaker.

When Hoyer became aware, he sought quick action. Pelosi apparently never became aware in the first place. And Pelosi herself described her lack of knowledge as appropriate.

Pelosi explained during a March 4 press conference that she had only become aware of the allegations against Massa the day prior — almost a month after Hoyer had — because while Hoyer's staff alerted him, Pelosi's staff did not alert her.

"I asked my staff, I said, have there been any rumors about any of this before?" she said. "There had been a rumor, but just that, no formal notification to our office that anything — a one, two, three person removed rumor that had been reported to Mr. Hoyer's office that had been reported to my staff, which they didn't report to me, because, you know what? This is rumor city. Every single day there are rumors. I have a job to do and not to be the receiver of rumors."

The House ethics committee is investigating the Massa case.

### Comments (41)

[ADD YOUR COMMENT](#)

PAGE | 1 | 2 | 3 | >

Hoyer throwing Pelosi under the bus; how quaint. Hoyer, Hoyer, Hoyer, ever hear of a thing called 'loyalty'?

BY **K FROM AZ** on 07/27/2010 at 14:55

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JVsr\\_-v2sl](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JVsr_-v2sl)

We may have to wait to drain the swamp until after November as there is no will to patrol their own.

BY **CHARLSIE** on 07/27/2010 at 15:00

**BILLBOARDS AROUND NV SHOULD READ:  
IF YOU LIKE 14% UNEMPLOYMENT – VOTE FOR HARRY REID!!**

substitute' for growth, calls for tax reform  
Some frustrated Democrats want to see Obama primary challenge  
White House scrambles to eclipse Republican attack on Solyndra solar

[Home/News »](#) [Most Viewed RSS Feed »](#)

### MORE HOUSE HEADLINES

- Boehner loosens up; talks Obama, freshmen and tending bar
- Boehner slams Obama jobs plan as 'poor substitute' for growth, calls for tax reform
- Pelosi for tax reform only if it increases revenue

[More House Headlines »](#)  
[House News RSS feed »](#)



### BRIEFING ROOM

- Former President Carter has kind words for Romney, Bachmann
- DAY'S END ROUNDUP
- Rep. Scott: NLRB made Boeing decision to help Obama reelection campaign

[More Briefing Room »](#)

### CONGRESS BLOG

- The big labor program that some Republicans might support
- Super Committee: Keep us safe with strong global leadership
- DOJ closes door on AT&T-Mobile merger

[More Congress Blog »](#)

### PUNDITS BLOG

- Avoiding a U.S. veto on a Palestinian state
- Palin's Alaska critics sound like racists
- Al Gore addresses the world with the truth

[More Pundits Blog »](#)

### TWITTER ROOM

- Barry Manilow walks up Capitol Hill
- Sen. Reid holds first Twitter town hall
- 'Lost' actor protests proposed oil pipeline

[More Twitter Room »](#)

### HILLICON VALLEY

- OVERNIGHT TECH: Fixing LightSquared could take a decade, general says
- GOP lawmaker upset over FCC chairman's decision to not testify
- FTC proposes changes to online privacy rules for children

[More Hillicon Valley »](#)

### E<sup>2</sup>-WIRE (ENERGY)

Subscriptions



IF YOU LIKE TRILLION DOLLARS OF DEBT – VOTE FOR HARRY REID!  
IF YOU LIKE CAP & TRADE TAXES – VOTE FOR HARRY REID!  
IF YOU LIKE THE WAY I BRIBE SENATORS/UNIONS -VOTE FOR HARRY REID!  
IF YOU LIKE REDISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH – VOTE FOR HARRY REID!  
IF YOU LIKE UNSECURED BORDERS – VOTE FOR HARRY REID!  
IF YOU LIKE THE PARTY OF OUT OF CONTROL SPENDING – VOTE FOR HARRY REID!  
OTHERWISE VOTE FOR SOMEONE ELSE!

BY **MARKG-NV** on 07/27/2010 at 15:15

Rep. Nancy Pelosi's "drain the swamp" will come back to haunt her since her Congress from 2007-2010 is one of the most corrupt House's ever. Instead of draining the swamp, Pelosi put on her bathing suit & jumped right into the swamp! The list is quite long, but the most prominent corruptocrats in both Houses are Senators Charles Rangel, the late Murtha, the retiring Chris Dodd, & Barney Frank. And that's just the Senate!

Hoyer waited too little, too late. He's in the swamp with Nancy Pelosi too.

BY **SEBASTIAN SHAW** on 07/27/2010 at 15:20

What Happened:::: Nancy and Charlie had covered this up for over two years and now this. Is Nancy losing some of her control?

BY **DON** on 07/27/2010 at 15:25

Pelosi in a bathing suit; now that's a revolting thought.

BY **K FROM AZ** on 07/27/2010 at 15:31

The Democrats House majority is on its last legs. Pelosi had no intention of "draining the swamp" considering how she aligned herself with Murtha, Frank, Rangel, et al. The Dems are much worse than the GOP ever was. I hope they lose 60 seats. That should scare the daylight out of Obama.

BY **TAXPAYER** on 07/27/2010 at 15:41

There is certainly alot of dirty slimey water to be drained.Hopefully Nance will be part of that dirty corrupted water.

BY **WISHING** on 07/27/2010 at 16:01

@Sebastion, Thanks for ruining my day with that "Nancy in a bathing suit..Image" OUCH!!

BY **NUFFSAID** on 07/27/2010 at 16:03

It's no swamp...it's a cesspool. All of the Dems stink like sewage!

BY **LIAMD2** on 07/27/2010 at 16:03

Thats funny just last month the democratic black caucus wanted to eliminate the ethics committee. Too bad for Charlie had they been able to do so he would not be in this mess.

BY **STENY** on 07/27/2010 at 16:17

FACT: Under the progressive leadership of soon to be SpeakerShipless Madame/Comrade Pelosky and soon-to-be-lobbiest DirtyDingy Harry "The War is Lost"The Racist" Reid, FACT: Gallup's 2010 Confidence in Institutions poll finds Congress ranking dead last out of the 16 institutions rated this year. Only 11% of Americans, definitely kool-aid drinkers, say they have a great deal or quite a lot of confidence in Congress, down from 17% in 2009 and a percentage point lower than the previous low for Congress, recorded in 2008. FACT: Underscoring Congress image problem, over 50% of Americans now say they have "very little" or no confidence in Congress, up from 38% in 2009 - and the highest for any institution since Gallup first asked this question in 1973. This year's poll also finds a 15-point drop in high confidence in the progressive presidency, to 36% from 51% in June 2009.

BY **VOTE DEMSOUT 2010/12** on 07/27/2010 at 16:20

FACT: Gallup has the Dems leading in the Generic Ballot for the second week in a row. FACT: A historically low 10% approve of Republicans in Congress. FACT: President Obama's Gallup approval is higher than Reagan's at the same point of his first term. FACT: The GOP is in disarray, with top Republicans calling for the firing of RNC chair

- **OVERNIGHT ENERGY:** EPA seeks to quell climate concerns as greens fret
- EPA chief 'respects' Obama's smog decision
- Boehner: Tie next highway bill to drilling expansion

[More E2-Wire \(Energy\) »](#)

**BALLOT BOX**

- Michigan eyeing early primary
- Former Rep. Kilroy will run for House
- Blue Dogs hire Whalen to beef up operations

[More Ballot Box »](#)

**ON THE MONEY**

- Bipartisan group of senators calls for deficit panel to 'go big'
- **OVERNIGHT MONEY:** Friday's calmer after busy week
- House members want answer on ways to help housing recover

[More On The Money »](#)

**HEALTHWATCH**

- **OVERNIGHT HEALTH:** SGR alternative takes shape
- Home health industry decries 'crippling' Medicare cuts
- Dems defend regulations as GOP attacks healthcare law

[More Healthwatch »](#)

**FLOOR ACTION**

- Senate passes FAA, highway funding
- Senate defeats Paul amendments to FAA, highway bill
- Senate passes bill to boost FEMA funding

[More Floor Action »](#)

**TRANSPORTATION**

- Reid deal avoids a second FAA shutdown
- FAA teeters on the brink of another shutdown
- Mica: Napolitano 'needs to go' as Homeland Security secretary

[More Transportation »](#)



**COLUMNISTS**

 A.B. Stoddard	 Brent Budowsky
 Lanny Davis	 Dick Morris
 Purity vs. victory	 Big-drama Obama
 Schultz's challenge	 Obama's Medicare blunder

[More Columnists »](#)



Get latest news from The Hill direct to your inbox, RSS reader and mobile devices.

[SIGN UP »](#)



Michael Steele and former Republican Congressman Joe Scarborough describing GOP House leader John Boner is a lazy bar hopper.

BY **VOTE GOPOUT 2010/12** on 07/27/2010 at 16:26

Ugh. Steny you are one ugly piece of work. Prima Donna, Nancy has bigger balls than you.

BY **MANBEARPIG** on 07/27/2010 at 16:26

FACT: Washington is abuzz with rumors of late-night partying and of House Republicans inappropriately hanging out with female lobbyists.

[http://www.rollcall.com/issues/56\\_11/news/48646-1.html](http://www.rollcall.com/issues/56_11/news/48646-1.html)

BY **VOTE GOPOUT 2010/12** on 07/27/2010 at 16:29

In essence queen nancy may actually drain the swamp after the dems get booted out of congress November 2nd. This, however, is not how she intended to do it.

BY **POPPA** on 07/27/2010 at 17:18

It depends on what the meaning of 'is' is. Hmm...I've heard this somewhere before..

BY **RIGOMAN3** on 07/27/2010 at 17:28

Hey Vote Gopout, you don't think the Dems are not out late trying to get some!!!!!!!!!!!!!!  
!!

BY **DWAYNE** on 07/27/2010 at 18:00

These DIMS are liars extraordinaire. They are absolutely ruining the country and have done ZERO to create private sector jobs.

Flush these racist RATS in NOVEMBER!

BY **DUNCE BIDEN** on 07/27/2010 at 19:26

SWAMP...Stupid Weird And Mad People...See Congress

BY **UKNOW?** on 07/27/2010 at 19:29

**Add Comment**

Name (required)

E-Mail (will not be published) (required)

Your Comments

[Business & Lobbying](#) | [Capital Living](#) | [Opinion](#)

**View News by Subject:**

[Defense & Homeland Security](#) | [Energy & Environment](#) | [Healthcare](#) | [Finance & Economy](#) | [Technology](#) | [Foreign Policy](#) | [Labor](#) | [Transportation & Infrastructure](#)

[Home/News](#) | [News by Subject](#) | [Blogs](#) | [Business & Lobbying](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Capital Living](#) | [Special Reports](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Video](#) | [The Washington Scene](#) |



[Home](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms & Conditions](#) | [Contact](#) | [Advertise](#) | [RSS](#) | [Subscriptions](#)

The Hill 1625 K Street, NW Suite 900 Washington DC 20006 | 202-628-8500 tel | 202-628-8503 fax

The contents of this site are © 2011 Capitol Hill Publishing Corp., a subsidiary of News Communications, Inc.