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TEA PARTY CAUCUS

I formed the Tea Party Caucus in the House of Representatives in July 2010 because Congress had strayed from the fundamental principles of the Constitution and was not listening to the American people. The Tea Party Caucus was launched as a means for everyday Americans to express their views to Members of Congress.

During the 2010 elections the American people spoke out clearly. They had enough of the reckless spending and vast government overreach coming from Washington. The American people called on Congress to adhere to the founding principles that we have sworn to uphold.

With the start of the 112th Congress in 2011 the mission of the Tea Party Caucus has begun anew.

I want to invite you to check this page for updates on the Tea Party Caucus, so you can encourage your Representative to join us for these important meetings.

In conjunction with the fundamental, first principles that drive the Tea Party Caucus, I've also been privileged to host Constitutional Seminars with speakers like Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia and Hillsdale College President Dr. Larry Arnn. They have spoken about issues that are central to our understanding of the Constitution.

Related Documents

May 9, 2011: [Bachmann Urges Tea Party to Keep up the Fight](#)

March 2, 2011: [Weekly Standard: Tea Party Caucus Meets](#)

February 28, 2011: [Members of the Tea Party Caucus](#)

January 5, 2011: [Fox News: The Dawn of a New Congress](#)

July 22, 2010: [The Hill: Caucus to listen to Tea Party, not lead it](#)

July 21, 2010: [Members of the Tea Party Caucus](#)

July 20, 2010: [Tea Party Caucus to Hold First Meeting Tomorrow](#)

July 19, 2010: [Why I Called for a Tea Party Caucus](#)

July 16, 2010: [Bachmann Calls on Speaker Pelosi to Support House Tea Party Caucus](#)

July 15, 2010: [Bachmann to Start House Caucus to Promote the American Peoples' Priorities](#)

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NEWS

Bachmann to Start House Caucus to Promote the American Peoples' Priorities

Washington, Jul 15, 2010 -

Today, U.S. Representative Michele Bachmann filed paperwork to start a House Tea Party Caucus to promote Americans' call for fiscal responsibility, adherence to the Constitution, and limited government.

"The American people are speaking out loud and clear. They have had enough of the spending, the bureaucracy, and the government knows best mentality running rampant today throughout the halls of Congress. This caucus will espouse the timeless principles of our founding, principles that all Members of Congress have sworn to uphold," Bachmann stated. "The American people are doing their part and making their voices heard and this caucus will prove that there are some here in Washington willing to listen."

A [letter was sent](#) earlier today to Representative Robert Brady, Chairman of the Committee on House Administration to register the House Tea Party Caucus as a Congressional Member Organization for the 111th Congress.

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5TH DISTRICT, MINNESOTA

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www.bachmann.house.gov

Representative Robert A. Brady
Chairman, Committee on House
Administration
1309 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Daniel Lungren
Ranking Member, Committee on House
Administration
1313 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

July 15, 2010

Dear Chairman Brady,

I would like to register the House Tea Party Caucus as a Congressional Member Organization for the 111th Congress. The House Tea Party Caucus will serve as an informal group of Members dedicated to promote Americans' call for fiscal responsibility, adherence to the Constitution, and limited government. Presently, I will serve as the Chair of the House Tea Party Caucus. My staff member assigned to handle caucus related issues is listed below:

Representative Michele Bachmann
Brian Looser (Staff)
202-225-2331
brian.looser@mail.house.gov

Thank you for your attention to this matter and please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,



Michele Bachmann
Member of Congress



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NEWS

Contact: [Dave Dziok](#) 202-225-2331

Bachmann Calls on Speaker Pelosi to Support House Tea Party Caucus

Washington, Jul 16, 2010 - Today, U.S. Representative Michele Bachmann sent a letter to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi petitioning her support for the House Tea Party Caucus currently awaiting approval by the Committee on House Administration.

The text of the letter is below:

July 16, 2010

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Madam Speaker,

On Thursday, July 15, 2010, I submitted the appropriate materials to the Committee on House Administration to register the House Tea Party Caucus as a Congressional Member Organization for the 111th Congress.

In conversations my staff had with the Committee, some concerns were voiced that this caucus may face roadblocks due to the perceived political nature of the label "Tea Party."

That is why I am writing to petition your support on this endeavor. As Members of Congress, we have an obligation to represent the views of our constituents, and this Caucus would do nothing more than promote the timeless principles of our founding, principles that all Members of Congress have sworn to uphold.

The Tea Party Caucus is strictly issue based in nature, promoting policies of fiscal responsibility and limited government with a strict adherence to our Constitution at the forefront. By rejecting such an organization, we would be silencing the voices, values and principles held dear by millions of Americans.

The Tea Party movement has become synonymous with these principles, and a caucus taking these values to heart would work to advance them. I ask that you and your leadership support our efforts and give us the same consideration and approval that you have given to the Congressional Animal Protection Caucus, Congressional Apparel Manufacturing and Fashion Business Caucus, the Congressional Shellfish Caucus, and Congressional Songwriter Caucus, among others.

I encourage you to join me on this initiative, and hope we can work together to advance the enduring principles of our founding.

Sincerely,

Michele Bachmann
Member of Congress

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Why I Called for a Tea Party Caucus

Washington, Jul 19, 2010 -

George Washington once said, "The Constitution is the guide which I never will abandon." Sadly, it seems today that the Constitution is no longer at the forefront guiding Congress if the reckless runaway spending, expansive government overreach, and excessive amounts of debt we have piled on our future generations are any indication. I called for a Tea Party Caucus to bring Members' attention to the cries of everyday Americans who are asking for a return to the fundamental principles contained within our nation's greatest document, the Constitution.

Americans from all locations and backgrounds have united through Tea Parties to spread the timeless messages of fiscal responsibility and limited government. And I have talked to many people who felt discouraged because no one in Washington D.C. seemed willing to listen. This caucus will change that sentiment and ensure the voices of the people are carried through the halls of Congress.

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Contact: [Dave Dziok](#) 202-225-2331

Tea Party Caucus to Hold First Meeting Tomorrow

Washington, Jul 20, 2010 - On Wednesday, July 21, the newly formed Tea Party Caucus will be holding its first meeting at 9:00 AM ET. Members of the Caucus will hear from a handful of Americans about how the current economic environment and policies of Congress are impacting their families and businesses.

Following the Caucus meeting, a press conference will be held at 10 AM located at the House Triangle with guests and Members of Congress.

The Caucus meeting itself will be Members only, and media are encouraged to attend the press conference that follows.

The Tea Party Caucus was formed to bring Members' attention to the cries of everyday Americans who are calling for fiscal responsibility, adherence to the Constitution, and limited government.

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The Hill: Caucus to listen to Tea Party, not lead it

Washington, Jul 22, 2010 -

Congress has strayed from the fundamental principles of the Constitution and Americans have noticed. Your federal government is recklessly overspending and vastly expanding its reach and powers the likes this country has never seen. More than a year ago, Tea Party groups started springing up all over the country. Their members cried for adherence to the Constitution and they looked for lawmakers to listen.

I formed the Tea Party Caucus here in the House to serve as a means for everyday Americans to express their views to Members of Congress. Congressmen will not be setting the rules; rather Americans are encouraged to share their thoughts and frustrations with the direction our country is heading. This Caucus is not a mouthpiece of the Tea Party. We are not vouching for the Tea Party. And most importantly, we are not leading the Tea Party. We are merely here to listen to hard working Americans who are concerned about the future of this great country.

In its first meeting Wednesday morning, 24 members of Congress heard from several individuals including a small-business owner, a construction worker and a homemaker. They voiced their desire for a government that would create laws supporting a free market and less government bureaucracy. Since the meeting, membership has swelled to 38.

By the way, this isn't the first time I've heard these ideas. People from across my district in Minnesota have shared these same thoughts with me time and time again. Americans are tired of seeing a large chunk of their paycheck go to the government so that we just continue borrowing money from China and add to our debt. They are rightly worried, for this is an unsustainable path for the future of our nation.

Americans have voiced these concerns, among others, to me and other members of Congress. They have urged lawmakers to follow the Constitution when legislating to return our government to one where our control is limited and that operates with the utmost fiscal integrity.

Wisely, our founders wrote the Constitution to guide a young nation into a great nation of freedom and prosperity. The United States has been a beacon of liberty for those less fortunate throughout the world. Our values must not be discarded as we are continuously faced with new challenges and threats everyday.

The Tea Party speaks for the timeless principles our nation was founded on, and the new Tea Party Caucus will represent the values all members of Congress swore to uphold.

(Originally Published on The Hill's Congress Blog)

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[Fox News: The Dawn of a New Congress](#)

Washington, Jan 5 - On November 2, 2010 the American people voted to usher in a new Congress and a new way of doing business in Washington. Under Nancy Pelosi's Speakership the Republican minority and the American people witnessed Democrats pushing through devastating changes that affected Wall Street and Main Street. -- We saw the debt grow from \$8.67 trillion to almost \$14 trillion. Bills were introduced in the dark of night without the transparency that was promised.

Now a new majority is taking the reins and it's time for action. We need to roll back Pelosi's furthest-reaching legislation, starting with a vote next week to repeal Obamacare and its 2,000 pages of loopholes and legalese.

I will introduce a repeal of the Dodd-Frank financial reform bill, which was another expansion of the federal government beyond its jurisdictional boundaries. -- It puts a wealth of control in the hands of regulators. Democrats unwisely allowed bureaucrats to become the interpreters and enforcers of the convoluted law.

The 112th Congress must lead with three main sentiments the American people have been emphasizing: One, don't spend more than we take in; two, we're taxed enough already; and three, Congress must adhere to the Constitution.

The Republican majority has a great opportunity to demonstrate true fiscal responsibility over the coming months as we present a new budget. Cutting member office budgets by 5% and requiring new legislation to have a "cut-as-we-go" offset is a good start. But more drastic measures will be required.

The American people see too much of their own money going to Uncle Sam. That's why I am introducing the End Tax Uncertainty Act of 2011. My bill will permanently extend current tax rates for all Americans, repeal the death tax and gift tax, and prevent a tax increase on the maximum tax rate for capital gains and dividends income for all. It will also reduce the corporate tax rate to twenty-five percent. With Japan's announced decrease in their corporate tax rate, the U.S. will soon have the highest corporate tax rate soon if Congress doesn't act.

It's also time to renew our commitment to the Constitution that we are swearing today to support and defend. Like sports teams who practice their trade, so should members of Congress regularly learn about our founding documents. I will be hosting Constitutional Seminars, featuring the teachings of legal scholars like Justice Antonin Scalia. I'm inviting all members to attend, both Republicans and Democrats.

I'm also inviting my colleagues to join the Tea Party Caucus, which I formed last summer to listen to the voices of the American people. The American people elected us to represent them and we must continue to listen and truly value what they say.

The 112th Congress will be dramatically different than the preceding Congress and I have great hope it will pass legislation to undo the monstrosities produced under Nancy Pelosi. The Republican majority has much work to do, but if it continues to listen to the American people, cuts spending, taxes less, and renews our focus on the Constitution, this Congress can bring real change to Washington.

Republican Michele Bachmann represents Minnesota's 6th District in the U.S. House of Representatives.

(Originally Published by Fox News Opinion)

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Members of the Tea Party Caucus

Washington, Feb 28 - Here is a list of those Members of Congress who have officially joined the Tea Party Caucus for the 112th Congress:

- Sandy Adams (FL-24)
- Robert Aderholt (AL-04)
- Todd Akin (MO-02)
- Rodney Alexander (LA-05)
- Michele Bachmann (MN-06)
- Roscoe Bartlett (MD-06)
- Joe Barton (TX-06)
- Rob Bishop (UT-01)
- Gus Bilirakis (FL-09)
- Diane Black (TN-06)
- Paul Broun (GA-10)
- Michael Burgess (TX-26)
- Dan Burton (IN-05)
- John Carter (TX-31)
- Bill Cassidy (LA-06)
- Howard Coble (NC-06)
- Mike Coffman (CO-06)
- Ander Crenshaw (FL-04)
- John Culberson (TX-07)
- Jeff Duncan (SC-03)
- Blake Farenthold (TX-27)
- Stephen Lee Fincher (TN-08)
- John Fleming (LA-04)
- Trent Franks (AZ-02)
- Phil Gingrey (GA-11)
- Louie Gohmert (TX-01)
- Vicky Hartzler (MO-04)
- Wally Herger (CA-02)
- Tim Huelskamp (KS-01)
- Lynn Jenkins (KS-02)
- Steve King (IA-05)
- Doug Lamborn (CO-05)
- Jeff Landry (LA-03)
- Blaine Luetkemeyer (MO-09)
- Kenny Marchant (TX-24)
- Tom McClintock (CA-04)
- David McKinley (WV-01)
- Gary Miller (CA-42)
- Mick Mulvaney (SC-05)
- Randy Neugebauer (TX-19)
- Rich Nugent (FL-05)
- Steve Pearce (NM-02)
- Mike Pence (IN-06)
- Ted Poe (TX-02)
- Tom Price (GA-06)
- Denny Rehberg (MT-At large)
- David Roe (TN-01)
- Dennis Ross (FL-12)

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Edward Royce (CA-40)
Steve Scalise (LA-01)
Pete Sessions (TX-32)
Adrian Smith (NE-03)
Lamar Smith (TX-21)
Cliff Stearns (FL-06)
Tim Walberg (MI-07)
Joe Walsh (IL-08)
Allen West (FL-22)
Lynn Westmoreland (GA-03)
Joe Wilson (SC-02)

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THE BLOG

Tea Party Caucus Meets

4:25 PM, MAR 1, 2011 • BY MATT KATZENBERGER

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Rep. Michele Bachmann's House Tea Party Caucus held its first meeting on Monday. About 30 members showed up, according to an article in the Hill.

The meeting reportedly focused on budget-related issues, including whether to support raising the debt ceiling: "Rep. Trent Franks (R-Ariz.)...said there was discussion of tying any vote to raise the debt limit to a serious concession from House Democrats - a vote on a constitutional balanced-budget amendment, for example."

The Hill goes on: "Fewer than a dozen Republican freshmen have joined the House Tea Party Caucus, so far - a relatively anemic number given the size of the class and the fact that many were helped to victory in 2010 by Tea Party activists."

The caucus currently has fifty members, including eleven freshmen. Bachmann expects membership to grow, and while other representatives have expressed interest, many are now saying they are too busy to join.

Matt Katzenberger is an intern at THE WEEKLY STANDARD.

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BIOGRAPHY



Elected in 2006, Congresswoman Michele Bachmann is the first Republican woman to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Minnesota. From the beginning, Congresswoman Bachmann has demonstrated bold reform, pushing to fix Washington's broken ways. Every day she puts her constitutional conservative values to work as she represents the people of Minnesota's Sixth Congressional District, a district which contains parts of six counties, stretching from Stillwater past St. Cloud, including suburbs of the Twin Cities.

Congresswoman Bachmann is a leading advocate for tax reform, a staunch opponent of wasteful government spending, and a strong proponent of adherence to the Constitution, as intended by the Founding Fathers. She believes government has grown exponentially, with ObamaCare being the most recent example of its uninhibited growth. Congresswoman Bachmann wants government to make the kind of serious spending decisions that many families and small businesses have been forced to make. She is a champion of free markets and she believes in the vitality of the family as the first unit of government. She is also a defender of the unborn and staunchly stands for religious liberties.

Prior to serving in the U.S. Congress, Bachmann served in the Minnesota State Senate. She was elected to the Minnesota State Senate in 2000 where she championed the Taxpayers Bill of Rights. Before that, she spent five years as a federal tax litigation attorney, working on hundreds of civil and criminal cases. That experience solidified her strong support for efforts to simplify the Tax Code and reduce tax burdens on family and small business budgets. Congresswoman Bachmann also led the charge on education issues in Minnesota calling for the abolishment of Goals 2000 and the Profiles of Learning in its school. She recognized the need for quality schools and subsequently started a charter school for at-risk kids in Minnesota.

Congresswoman Bachmann sits on the Financial Services Committee (FSC) and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. The FSC is tasked with oversight of numerous financial sectors including housing, real estate and banking. This gave the Congresswoman keen insight into the housing crisis and credit crunch, leading her to be a staunch opponent of the taxpayer-funded bailout of Wall Street and the Dodd-Frank legislation. Serving on the Intelligence Committee was a welcomed opportunity for Congresswoman Bachmann as she has consistently advocated peace through strength to ensure America's national security. As a mother of five children and 23 foster children, she has a deep appreciation for that portion of the Oath of Office in which members of Congress vow to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

In July 2010 Congresswoman Bachmann hosted the first Tea Party Caucus meeting because she saw the need for Tea Partiers to have a listening ear in Congress. She is seen as a champion of Tea Party values including the call for lower taxes, renewed focus on the Constitution and the need to shrink the size of government.

Congresswoman Bachmann is a graduate of Anoka High School and Winona State University. She received her J.D. at the O.W. Coburn School of Law at Oral Roberts University and an L.L.M. in Tax Law at the College of William and Mary. She has been married to Marcus for more than thirty years and they live in Stillwater where they own a small business mental health care practice that employs nearly fifty people. The Bachmanns have five children, Lucas, Harrison, Elisa, Caroline, and Sophia. In addition, the Bachmanns have opened their home to 23 foster children, which has inspired Congresswoman Bachmann to become one of Congress' leading advocates for foster and adopted children, earning her bipartisan praise for her efforts.

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****FILE**** Supreme Court Justice Elena Kagan (Associated Press)

By [Jerry Seper](#) - The Washington Times

Updated: 9:28 p.m. on Thursday, June 30, 2011

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Forty-nine Republican members of [Congress](#) have asked the House [Judiciary Committee](#) to “promptly investigate” Supreme Court Justice [Elena Kagan](#)’s role in preparing a legal defense for President Obama’s health care law when she served as solicitor general.

In a letter to committee Chairman [Lamar Smith](#), Texas Republican, and the panel’s ranking Democrat, [John Conyers Jr.](#) of Michigan, the lawmakers said that “contradictory to her 2010 confirmation testimony before the Senate [Judiciary Committee](#),” recently released [Justice Department](#) documents show that [Justice Kagan](#) “actively participated with her Obama administration colleagues in formulating a defense” for the law.

The lawmakers, including 10 doctors and [GOP](#) presidential candidates [Rep. Ron Paul](#) of Texas and [Rep. Michele Bachmann](#) of Minnesota, said the documents raise “serious questions” about [Justice Kagan](#)’s ability to “exercise objectivity” in any case involving the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) that comes before the Supreme Court.

The letter was released Thursday by [Rep. John Fleming](#), Louisiana Republican, who questioned whether [Justice Kagan](#)’s involvement in legal-defense activities while serving as solicitor general should warrant her recusal from [Obamacare](#) cases under federal law.

“Determining the extent of [Justice Kagan](#)’s involvement is imperative for Americans to have confidence in the impartiality of the Supreme Court,” said [Mr. Fleming](#), a doctor. “Americans have a legitimate right to know the truth.

“If [Obamacare](#) is such a great law, like President Obama claims, then why are there dozens of lawsuits pending in the courts against it?” he said. “The reason is the law is fundamentally unconstitutional, and it is just a matter of time before it begins to unravel.”

In the letter, the lawmakers said the law establishes “unambiguous



By [Rowan Scarborough](#) - The Washington Times

COMMENTARY

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By [Steve Milloy](#)

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Published 7:33 p.m. July 5, 2011

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conditions on which federal judges must recuse themselves from proceedings in which their impartiality might be reasonably questioned." They said that under the law, a justice should recuse in cases where they "served in government employment and in such capacity participated as counsel, advisor or material witness concerning the proceedings or expressed an opinion concerning the merits of the particular case in controversy."

"Even from the limited number of DOJ emails released to date through the Freedom of Information Act lawsuit, it is evident that Justice Kagan was involved in PPACA defense activities to a degree that warrants her disqualification from related proceedings as specified" by the law, the letter said.

Justice Department spokeswoman Tracy Schmaler said, "During her tenure, former Solicitor General Elena Kagan did not play any substantive role in litigation challenging health care reform legislation, and the documents that were released reflect that."

Justice Kagan was named to the high court by Mr. Obama on May 10, 2010, to fill a vacancy created by the retirement of Justice John Paul Stevens. At the time, she was solicitor general. She was sworn in to the Supreme Court on Aug. 7, 2010, by Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. Because of her role as the government's chief legal representative as solicitor general, she recused herself from 25 of the 51 cases that the court accepted through December.

During her July 2010 confirmation hearings, Republican lawmakers invoked committee rules allowing for the confirmation vote to be delayed for a week. The request - by Sen. Jeff Sessions of Alabama, the committee's ranking Republican - gave Republicans more time to review her record.

Mr. Sessions said he wanted more information about her role in forming strategies to stop legal challenges to Mr. Obama's health care bill. He further queried as to whether such involvement would require Justice Kagan to recuse herself from any future cases as a Supreme Court justice.

Ms. Kagan told the committee that she would weigh recusing herself from matters related to the health care law on a case-by-case basis. She said in written responses that she had no involvement in developing the government's legal responses and was never asked her views or offered them.

She said she attended at least one meeting where the litigation was briefly mentioned, and that the Justice Department filed a number of documents in the case during her tenure, but she had no firsthand knowledge of any of the filings.

Many of the documents outlining Justice Kagan's involvement in health care legislation while solicitor general were released in May by Judicial Watch, the Washington-based legal-watchdog organization, through a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit.

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Mr. Fleming said the emails "leave little doubt that Justice Kagan actively participated in formulating the administration's defense strategy of Obamacare during her tenure as solicitor general."

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By Jim McElhatton - The Washington Times

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FROM WHAT JUDICIAL WATCH HAS REVEALED SO FAR, IT APPEARS THE LADY HAS SOME SPLAINING TO DO IF SHE GOES FORWARD ON THE CASE WHEN IT HITS THE HIGH COURT. SHE MAY ALSO HAVE WRONGED HERSELF BEFORE THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE IN HER TESTIMONY TO OBTAIN CONFIRMATION TO THE COURT. THE PLOT THICKENS.

06/30/2011 04:28 PM 47 Likes

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adcbest

She doesn't having anything to explain .. She said she worked on certain cases and would recuse herself when necessary ... she's recused herself over 1/2 the time so far

You conspiracy nutz should be in jail

07/02/2011 12:55 PM in reply to DANSHANTEAL 2 Likes

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jkdriss

And there it is, this is how tyranny comes to light, this is how leaders turn into dictators because this one person thinks they have the moral high ground, and anyone disagreeing with them is less than human and should be taken care of. You know while you are sitting wherever you are sitting spouting off at the mouth men and women are dying for this country, they are dying for the rights of others to believe what they believe. Then some despot has come along and act like their moral authority is higher than God himself, and then the next thing you know people who believe a conspiracy should go to jail. I have an idea. Go to the heritage foundation website, get your free pocket sized constitution sit down and read the bill of rights and then decide if those bill of rights are something your children should have.

07/03/2011 09:17 AM in reply to adcbest 2 Likes

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johnmd1022

Impeach her for perjury.

07/02/2011 06:04 AM 30 Likes

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adcbest

John you are an IDIOT ...

She didn't lie under oath .. Republicans are trying to stack the deck against the Healthcare law when it gets to the Supreme Court ... That's it

07/02/2011 12:52 PM in reply to johnmd1022 2 Likes

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Probe urged of Kagan's health care role <http://is.gd/e6TaPG> FOIA's make it evident she was involved in ObamaCare defense

07/03/2011 07:28 PM



jeffswarens via [twitter](#)

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Leslie Johnson resigns from P.G. County Council

By Andrea Noble - The Washington Times

updated 6 hours, 50 minutes ago

Prince George's County Council member Leslie E. Johnson resigned from her post Tuesday, five days after pleading guilty to federal charges of conspiracy to commit witness and evidence tampering. Published 12:19 p.m. July 5, 2011



Casey Anthony cleared in daughter's death

By Tim Devaney - The Washington Times

updated 8 hours, 16 minutes ago

Facing murder charges that could have resulted in a death sentence, Casey Anthony on Tuesday was found not guilty of the most serious charges in the 2008 death of her 2-year-old daughter, Caylee. Published 3:06 p.m. July 5, 2011



President won't tweet at Twitter town hall

By Dave Boyer - The Washington Times

President Obama, not known for brevity, won't be playing by Twitter's 140-character rule when he answers questions posed on the social-media website Wednesday in a town-hall format. Published 7:19 p.m. July 5, 2011

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6/24	493	H J Res 68	No
6/24	492	H Res 328	Yea

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Rep. Fleming DEMANDS the Truth on Kagan Involvement in Obamacare Defense

Washington, Jun 30 -

Rep. Fleming DEMANDS the Truth on Kagan Involvement in Obamacare Defense

Washington, D.C. – Congressman John Fleming, M.D. released the following statement today after sending a letter to the House Judiciary Committee, with the support of 48 of his House colleagues, calling for an immediate investigation of Supreme Court Justice Elena Kagan's involvement in Obamacare legal defense activities during her tenure as Solicitor General in the Obama Administration. Supreme Court Justice Kagan was nominated by President Obama and confirmed to the high court by the Democrat controlled Senate in 2010. [\(Click Here to view a copy of the letter\)](#)

"Today I'm proud to join 48 of my House colleagues in requesting the House Judiciary Committee to investigate the extent to which Supreme Court Justice Elena Kagan was involved in Obamacare legal defense activities during her tenure as Solicitor General, and whether that involvement should warrant her recusal from Obamacare cases per federal law. Determining the extent of Justice Kagan's involvement is imperative for Americans to have confidence in the impartiality of the Supreme Court. Further, I find it deeply troubling that groups investigating this matter have continued to be stonewalled by the Justice Department. Americans have a legitimate right to know the truth," said Congressman Fleming.

Congressman Fleming added, "If Obamacare is such a great law like President Obama claims, then why are there dozens of lawsuits pending in the courts against it? The reason is the law is fundamentally unconstitutional, and it is just a matter of time before it begins to unravel. As a practicing physician for over 30 years, I know firsthand that Obamacare is a trojan horse which is why it needs to be repealed, defunded, and replaced with free market solutions that put the patient first in health care decisions rather than a panel unelected bureaucrats that will ration health care."

BACKGROUND:

On May 18, Judicial Watch released 24 pages of printed emails from DOJ's Office of the Solicitor General which they obtained (in coordination with the Media Research Center) through a FOIA lawsuit. The emails, which date from January through June of 2010, are exchanges between then Solicitor General Elena Kagan and her colleagues regarding planning sessions for coordinating the Administration's legal defense of Obamacare. The emails – *which are but a fraction of the relevant emails DOJ acknowledges it's withholding* – leave little doubt that Justice Kagan actively participated in formulating the Administration's defense strategy of Obamacare during her tenure as Solicitor General. For additional details, and to read the emails, click here: <http://www.judicialwatch.org/news/2011/may/documents-raise-questions-about-supreme-court-justice-kagan-s-role-obamacare-defense-s>

Dr. John Fleming is Chairman of the Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Affairs and is a member of the House Armed Services Committee. He is a physician and small business owner and represents the 4th Congressional District of Louisiana.

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Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 24, 2011

The Honorable Lamar S. Smith
Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary
2138 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Conyers, Jr.
Ranking Member, House Committee on the Judiciary
B-351 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Smith and Ranking Member Conyers:

We respectfully call upon the House Judiciary Committee to promptly investigate the extent to which U.S. Supreme Court Justice Elena Kagan was involved in preparing a legal defense of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) during her tenure as Solicitor General. Contradictory to her 2010 confirmation testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee, recently released Department of Justice (DOJ) documents indicate that Justice Kagan actively participated with her Obama Administration colleagues in formulating a defense of PPACA.

This revelation raises serious questions about Justice Kagan's ability to exercise objectivity in any case relevant to PPACA that comes before the Supreme Court. As you know, Section 455 of Title 28 of the United States Code establishes unambiguous conditions in which federal judges must recuse themselves from proceedings in which their impartiality might be reasonably questioned. According to the law, a justice should recuse themselves in cases "*where he has served in governmental employment and in such capacity participated as counsel, adviser or material witness concerning the proceedings or expressed an opinion concerning the merits of the particular case in controversy.*" Even from the limited number of DOJ emails released to date through a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit, it is evident that Justice Kagan was involved in PPACA defense activities to a degree that warrants her disqualification from related proceedings as specified by Section 455.

Regrettably the Justice Department has been uncooperative to date with repeated FOIA requests that seek the full body of relevant emails from the Office of the Solicitor General that would reveal the scope of Justice Kagan's involvement in PPACA defense activities. As numerous challenges to PPACA are rapidly progressing through the federal courts, it is increasingly likely that the Supreme Court will be called upon to decide the constitutionality of the law in the near future. This Congress, and the American people, deserve to have confidence in the integrity and impartiality of our Supreme Court and its justices. Towards that end, we ask that the Committee act expeditiously to investigate this matter to the fullest extent possible.



JOHN FLEMING, M.D.
Member of Congress

Sincerely,



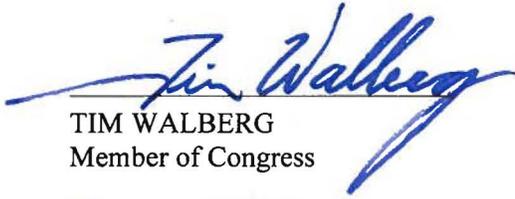
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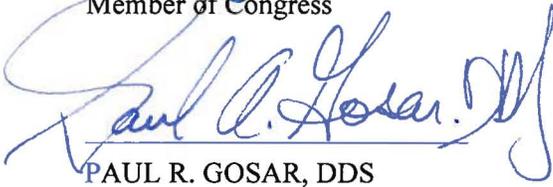
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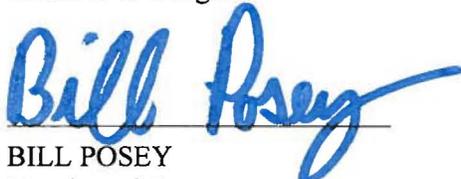
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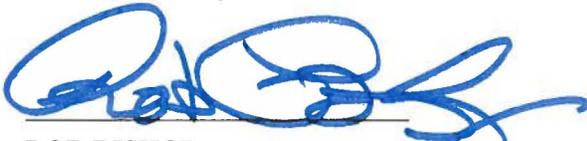
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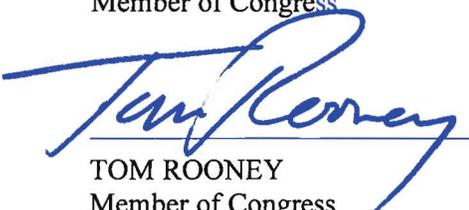
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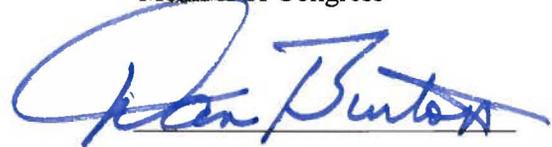
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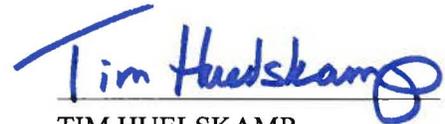
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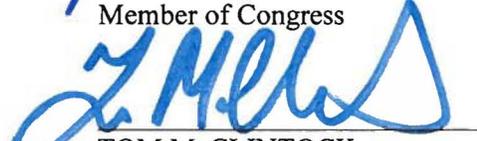
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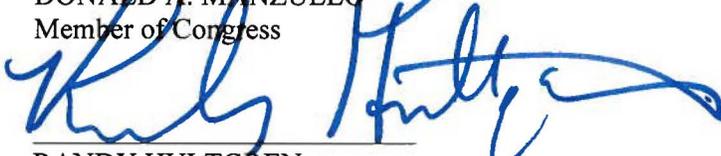
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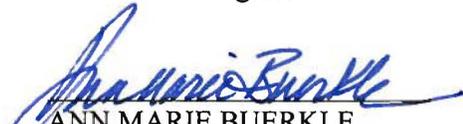
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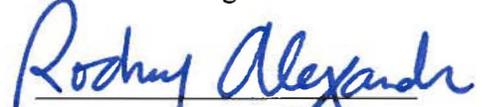

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