

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3804 202-224-6324 June 14, 1999 AGRICULTURE
ARMED SERVICES

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON AIRLAND FORCES

RULES

BANKING
VICE CHAIRMAN,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING
AND TRANSPORTATION

Shirley Ann Jackson Chairman Nuclear Regulatory Commission One White Flint North Building 11555 Rockville Pike Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Chairman Jackson:

It has come to my attention that the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee (DSCC) has initiated Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests of federal agencies of all direct correspondence between the offices of Senators, including myself, up for reelection in 2000 and the said agencies. These requests are for all letters, written material, reports, constituent requests and other written material sent by our offices to the agencies.

I am disturbed and alarmed at another attempt to misuse official and confidential material for political purposes. I am even more concerned that this request violates the privacy of my constituents, who seek assistance from my office with the confidence that their personal concerns are kept out of the public eye. It is unethical and an outrage that the often difficult personal problems my constituents have had with the federal government could be dragged into the public. They should not even fear this possibility. No constituent should hesitate to contact their representative's office for assistant out of fear that their privacy will be violated for political purposes.

Therefore, I am writing to request that:

* you inform me immediately if such a request has been made;

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- * you provide assurances that you will protect the privacy of my constituents by redacting any information which details the name, address, telephone number, social security number or any other information which would allow for their identification:
- * you forward to me copies of any material that your agency forwarded to the DSCC per their FOIA request so that I can alert my constituents that their confidential correspondence is no longer confidential and has been given to a political entity for political purposes.

I view this inappropriate action of the DSCC and the Senate Democratic leadership as part of an abusive pattern witnessed by the FBI file scandal and practices of the IRS uncovered during the Senate hearing last Congress. I look forward to your prompt reply.

Sincerely,

Rick Santorum U.S. Senate

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