

Jan 11 2006 - Based on History, Slaughter Questions Republican Commitment to Ethics Reform

Based on History, Slaughter Questions Republican Commitment to Ethics Reform

Record Clearly Indicates Republicans Have Fought an Ethical Congress at Every Turn

Washington, DC - Rep. Louise M. Slaughter (D-NY-28), Ranking Member of the House Rules Committee, today questioned the commitment of the Republican Party to real ethics reform within the House and Senate. Her comments were based on a long history of Republican obstructionism regarding the issue of Congressional ethics.

"The Leadership of the Republican Party can pass all of the rules it wants, but history has shown that rules don't mean much to them," Rep. Slaughter said.

"The attempts to reform the ethics process in Congress and to insist on accountability in government have been entirely democratic," she continued. "For over a year, starting after Rep. Chris Bell filed his initial ethics complaint in 2004, Republicans have fought and resisted any and all attempts to infuse ethics into the business of Washington."

"What we are seeing now from prominent Republican is nothing but damage control masquerading as real reform," she concluded, "but the American people won't be fooled."