

ALL AMERICAN LEAGUE OF LOBBYISTS

April 29, 2011

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Press Release

Lobbyists Group Calls Contractor Proposal 'Bad Public Policy'

The American League of Lobbyists (ALL) is extremely concerned about the Administration's draft Executive Order (EO) to require those wanting to do business with the federal government to disclose their current and past political contributions. The American League of Lobbyists has repeatedly advocated for the highest standards of ethics and transparency in government. We have been the driving force behind legislation and other policies to achieve that goal. What this draft EO proposes, however, is redundant and questionable.

Any requirement that one disclose political contribution information as part of a government process that is specifically designed to be apolitical (i.e. contracting) is not productive. Any requirement that one disclose political contribution information as part of a government process that is specifically designed to be apolitical (i.e. contracting) is simply and obviously bad public policy. Rather than promoting the separation of politics and governance, this misguided policy could be construed as another form of pay-to play that encourages government contractors to promote the political agenda of the Administration.

The draft EO continues a pattern of EO's and policies of this Administration that have been ill-conceived based on political expediency. Professional lobbyists have been barred from White

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House meetings and membership on executive branch Advisory Councils, and had our Recovery Act communications treated differently from all others. All of this has been done using the mantra of Transparency and Good Government, but the result is quite the contrary.

We strongly encourage the Administration to reconsider this draft EO.

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