



AMERICANS FOR LIMITED GOVERNMENT

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September 16th, 2009

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Majority Leader Hoyer:

On September 15th, you and your fellow House Democrat leaders decided to punish Rep. Joe Wilson (R-SC) for having called President Obama a liar during the President's most recent address to a joint session. The vote was 240-179.

While many of us believe your decision is both unwise and unwarranted, it's your House, so how you intend to remain the master of it is certainly within your purview.

Might I suggest, however, that you extend your new-found vigilance to include the egregious transgressions of one of your most notoriously malfeasant colleagues of all, one Charles Rangel (D-NY) by name?

More specifically, on behalf of the 400,000 members of Americans for Limited Government nationwide, I hereby urge you to immediately remove Mr. Rangel from his pivotal position as Chairman of the powerful House Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. Rangel's nefarious financial wheeling and dealing has brought disgrace upon himself, his office, our nation, and your House. Time and again, he has been caught red handed violating tax laws and House rules, only to plead a degree of unmitigated ignorance absolutely intolerable for a man in his position.

And yet, you – who came to power on a platform promising to clean up a “Culture of Corruption” – have pharisaically supported his every transgression.

Mr. Rangel failed to disclose report over \$1 million in outside income and \$3 million in business transactions as required by the House – and you have covered up for him.

Mr. Rangel only disclosed in August at least \$650,000 in assets he had previously failed to list on his House financial disclosure forms – and you have covered up for him.

Mr. Rangel failed to disclose to the IRS or on his financial disclosure forms \$75,000 in rental income for a beach villa in the Dominican Republic -- and you have covered up for him.

Mr. Rangel broke state laws by claiming three primary residences and broke municipal laws by maintaining four rent-controlled apartments – and you have covered up for him.

Mr. Rangel violated House rules by using congressional letterhead to solicit donations for an education center bearing his name at City College of New York – and you have covered up for him.

Mr. Rangel is delinquent in paying his property taxes on two New Jersey parcels and failed to report the sale of a \$1.3 million brownstone -- and you have covered up for him.

In fact, not only have you covered up for Mr. Rangel's repeated transgressions of tax laws and House rules, you, Mrs. Pelosi have gone so far as to defend this miscreant by declaring, ""He loves this Congress. He wants to do nothing but bring credit to it. And he'll be the first one to know what his course of action should be."

Since when do we let wrongdoers determine their own requital?

And, please, do not continue to insult the American people's intelligence by repeating the old bromide that, "We're waiting on the Ethics Committee to make its decision." In this case, the Ethics Committee -- comprised of some of Mr. Rangel's most ardent apologists -- has clearly decided to turn its "internal investigation" into an "eternal investigation." And justice delayed has long since become justice denied.

Madame Speaker and Leader Hoyer, the time has come for you to remove Charles Rangel from the chairmanship of the Ways and Means Committee. Any further delay will make you little more than willing accomplices to his malfeasance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William A. Wilson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

William Wilson
President
Americans for Limited Government