

PETER A. DeFAZIO
4TH DISTRICT, OREGON

TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE
RANKING MEMBER



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

December 21, 2016

PLEASE RESPOND TO:

- 2134 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3704
(202) 225-6416
- 405 EAST 8TH AVENUE, #2030
EUGENE, OR 97401
(541) 465-6732
1-800-944-9603
- 125 CENTRAL AVENUE, #350
COOS BAY, OR 97420
(541) 269-2609
- 612 SE JACKSON STREET, #9
ROSEBURG, OR 97470
(541) 440-3523
- defazio.house.gov

President-elect Donald J. Trump Transition Team
1717 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear President-elect Trump Transition Team:

I am pleased that President-elect Trump has committed to expand restrictions on lobbying by political appointees when they leave his administration. To ensure Washington works for the benefit of Americans, I agree that we must "drain the swamp."

On the first day of the 115th Congress I will reintroduce my DRAIN the SWAMP Act (Deter Revolving-Door Appointments in Our Nation; Stop Washington Appointees from becoming Manipulative Petitioners.)

The bill would bring the force of law to President-elect Trump's promise to bar anyone who serves as his political appointee from lobbying for five years after they leave the Executive Branch, as well as permanently bar any individual appointed to the president-elect's administration from lobbying on behalf of a foreign government. As you know, there is no penalty for violating his ban unless it is codified by Congress.

Current law bars current administration appointees from lobbying for at least one year after they leave the executive branch, with a penalty of up to one year in prison and/or a fine of up to \$50,000. My bill applies the same penalties.

The American people elected Mr. Trump with the expectation that he would bring a new way of doing business to Washington. His lobby ban is a good start, and I would like to assist in his efforts. I am certain that if the president-elect endorsed my bill it would send a strong message to Congress that he takes the ethical standards of his administration seriously. With the weight of his endorsement, the House and Senate could pass the bill and have it ready for his signature on his first day in office.

I stand ready to aid the president-elect in his efforts to ensure his political appointees do not gain financially from the work they perform on behalf of the American people. I look forward to his endorsement of the DRAIN the SWAMP Act and the chance to work together as he prepares to take office.

Sincerely,

Peter A. DeFazio
Member of Congress