

Conservative Action Project

The Conservative Action Project (CAP), founded in 2008 by many conservative leaders with former **Attorney General Edwin Meese III** serving as the Founding Chairman. CAP is currently chaired by **The Honorable Becky Norton Dunlop** and is designed to facilitate conservative leaders working together on behalf of common goals. Participants include the CEOs of over 100 organizations representing all major elements of the conservative movement-economic, social and national security.

Memo for the Movement

No Taxes for Hush Money

January 18, 2018
Washington, D.C.

The recent revelation of a Congressional “hush fund” that paid settlements to victims of sexual harassment by Members of Congress and their staffs is shocking, offensive and profoundly wrong.

At least nine public polls taken in November and December confirm that the American public is revulsed, not only by the acts of harassment themselves, but also by the practice of buying the victims’ silence with settlements paid for with taxpayers’ money and hidden from the public through non-disclosure agreements. Conservatives must seize the moral high ground on this issue. It is not enough merely to demand the resignations of offenders. We must lead the effort to condemn the offenses unambiguously and support structural changes in the way Congress deals with these situations so that the public trust in our legislators can be restored.

One effort to ensure that Congress addresses this issue effectively is H.R. 4494, the Congressional Accountability and Hush Fund Elimination Act, introduced by Rep. Ron DeSantis (R-FL). It has already garnered nearly 100 cosponsors (74 Republicans and 25 Democrats). The conservative movement should conduct a grassroots campaign among our organizations’ supporters to put pressure on their Members of Congress to take an active role in ensuring that the problem and the legislation that seeks to address it are given prompt consideration and passage.

Congress will act when constituents demand it, even if the inappropriate behavior of some Congressional allies is exposed as a consequence. No one knows how many settlements are involved, but any honest observer knows intuitively that secrecy is no solution to scandal. Strong, committed leadership is required, and if the conservative movement does not provide that leadership, we will be looked upon as part of the problem rather than as part of the solution and it will undermine our moral authority as a movement.

We, the undersigned leaders of conservative organizations have pledged to encourage our supporters and members to contact their Member of Congress and urge prompt and serious action. Toward that end, a website has been established that will facilitate communication with Congress. The address is www.NoTaxesForHushMoney.com. The site has a tool to identify the constituent’s Member of Congress based upon their home address. A suggested letter with

editable text will allow constituents to write directly to their Member's own webform, the means of communication that most Members prefer.

There is no cost to use the website, and if your group chooses to take part, your logo will be shown on the website along with the other groups who have chosen likewise.

Thank you for your consideration.

The Honorable Edwin Meese III

Former Attorney General
President Ronald Reagan

The Honorable Colin A. Hanna

President
Let Freedom Ring, Inc.

Alfred S. Regnery

Chairman
Law Enforcement Legal Defense Fund

Diana Banister

President and Partner
Shirley & Banister Public Affairs

Lisa B. Nelson

Chief Executive Officer
American Legislative Exchange Council

Rachel Bovard

Former Policy Director
Senate Steering Committee

Jenny Beth Martin

Chairman
Tea Party Patriots Citizen Fund

The Honorable Tony Perkins

President, Family Research Council
President, Council for National Policy

Cleta Mitchell, Esq.

The Honorable Becky Norton Dunlop

Chairman, Conservative Action Project
Former White House Advisor, President
Ronald Reagan

The Honorable David McIntosh

President
Club for Growth

David Bozell

President
ForAmerica

Adam Brandon

President
FreedomWorks

Ed Corrigan

Former Executive Director
Senate Steering Committee

The Honorable T. Kenneth Cribb, Jr.

Former Chief Domestic Advisor
President Ronald Reagan

Thomas E. McClusky

President
March for Life Action

William L. Walton

Chairman
CNP Action, Inc.

The Honorable J. Kenneth Blackwell

Chairman
Constitutional Congress, Inc.

Marjorie Dannenfelser
President
Susan B. Anthony List

Penny Young Nance
CEO & President
Concerned Women for America

David N. Bossie
President
Citizens United

Floyd Brown
Chairman
Western Center for Journalism

Anne Schlafly Cori
Chairman
Eagle Forum

The Honorable Kenneth Cuccinelli
President
Senate Conservatives Fund

The Honorable Charles J. Cooper
Former Assistant Attorney General, Ronald
Reagan Administration
Cooper & Kirk, PLLC

Bob Adams
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Revive America PAC

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Former National Chairman, Constitution
Party and Conservative Legal Defense and
Education Fund

Rebecca Hagelin
Secretary, Council for National Policy
Board of Directors, FamilyTalk

Larry Beasley
President and CEO
The Washington Times

The Honorable Mike Spence
Founding President
Conservative Republicans of California

Roxanne Phillips
Member, Executive Committee
Council for National Policy

The Honorable James C. Miller III
Director, Office of Management & Budget
President Ronald Reagan (1985-1988)

The Honorable Gary Bauer
President
American Values

Randall S. Page
Chief of Staff
Bob Jones University

The Honorable Timothy Echols
PSC Commissioner
State of Georgia

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Executive Director, President Reagan's
Alumni Association

James L. Martin
Founder & Chairman
60 Plus Association

Robert D. Thompson
Former Administrator
The Weyrich Lunch

All organizations listed for IDENTIFICATION purposes only)

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