



Vermont Democratic Party

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April 27, 2011

The Honorable William H. Sorrell
Vermont Attorney General
109 State Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05602

Re: Solicitation of Lobbyists by Douglas for Governor Campaign.

Dear Attorney General Sorrell:

Please consider this letter as a formal complaint regarding a violation of Vermont's campaign finance/lobbying laws by the Douglas for Governor Campaign. Governor Douglas solicited political campaign contributions from registered lobbyists during the legislative session in 2009, which is a clear violation of 2 V.S.A. § 266.

2 V.S.A. § 266 prohibits the Governor or other administrative officials from soliciting political campaign contributions until the final adjournment of legislature. This law is intended to prevent politicians from using the legislative session as a political fundraising tool and to prevent lobbyists from using contributions to influence public policy or to create the perception of undue influence.

On or about March 2, 2009, Governor Douglas and his campaign solicited a political campaign contribution from a registered lobbyist, prior to the Legislature's final adjournment. A copy of the solicitation letter is attached hereto as Exhibit 1. This is a clear violation of the statutory proscription against making such solicitations for political contributions.

On behalf of the Vermont Democratic Party, I am requesting that this matter be fully investigated by Office of the Vermont Attorney General and appropriate enforcement measures brought for such a violation.

Sincerely,

Jesse Bragg, Executive Director
Vermont Democratic Party