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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 07, 2008 | 74 DAYS UNTIL INAUGURATION

AGENDA

PLAN TO CHANGE WASHINGTON

"I am in this race to tell the corporate lobbyists that their days of setting the agenda in Washington are over. I have done more than any other candidate in this race to take on lobbyists — and won. They have not funded my campaign, they will not run my White House, and they will not drown out the voices of the American people when I am president."

— Barack Obama, Speech in Des Moines, IA, November

10, 2007

Of the People, By the People

There is no more important resource for changing the direction of this country and defining the ideas that will transform America than the American people.

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The Problem

Lobbyists Write National Policies: For example, Vice President Dick Cheney's Energy Task Force of oil and gas lobbyists met secretly to develop national energy policy.

Secrecy Dominates Government Actions: The Bush administration has ignored public disclosure rules and has invoked a legal tool known as the "state secrets" privilege more than any other previous administration to get cases thrown out of civil court.

Wasteful Spending is Out of Control: The current administration has abused its power by handing out contracts without competition to its politically connected friends and supporters. These abuses cost taxpayers billions of dollars each year.

Barack Obama and Joe Biden's Plan

Shine the Light on Washington Lobbying

- **Centralize Ethics and Lobbying Information for Voters:** Obama and Biden will create a centralized Internet database of lobbying reports, ethics records, and campaign finance filings in a searchable, sortable and downloadable format.
- **Require Independent Monitoring of Lobbying Laws and Ethics Rules:** Obama and Biden will use the power of the presidency to fight for an independent watchdog agency to oversee the investigation of congressional ethics violations so that the public can be assured that ethics complaints will be investigated.

Shine the Light on Federal Contracts, Tax Breaks and Earmarks

- **Create a Public "Contracts and Influence" Database:** As president, Obama will create a "contracts and influence" database that will disclose how much federal contractors spend on lobbying, and what contracts they are getting and how well they complete them.

UPCOMING EVENTS



THE AGENDA

- Revitalizing the Economy
- Ending the War in Iraq
- Providing Health Care for All
- Protecting America
- Renewing American Global Leadership

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Barack Obama

Vice President-Elect
Joe Biden

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