

THE CONGRESSIONAL APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS AND HOW IT WORKS

The House response to the Brent Wilkes subpoena is now online—it's 81 pages long. I'll comment more on the rationale for quashing the subpoenas in an update (I've got a talk to go give shortly, but the short version is speech and debate). But some initial details:

- The subpoena to Ike Skelton has been withdrawn
- Wilkes also subpoenaed: Carl Levin and Jay Rockefeller (no doubt in their role as Armed Services and SSCI Chair), Larry Craig, Daniel Inouye (both recipients of Wilkes largesse; here's a question—is Craig sticking around the Senate to retain immunity? And will the Senate let him?), and Josh Bolten, Robert Gates and Gordon Craig

After some back and forth, the General Counsel of the House was able to get Geragos to explain that he was interested in information "concerning the congressional appropriations process and how it works." No, really?

There's more detail on the subpoenas to Hunter and Lewis (big surprise) and Murtha and Reyes, as follows.