

MoveOn.org Political Action

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Watch The New Ads Here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xgCjkG4w6eA>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HZ-D4vfcYDE>

MoveOn Hits Back Against Chamber of Commerce With Ads Targeting Ayotte and Paul

MoveOn's Ads Are Part Of New Campaign Announced Earlier This Week To Push Back On Corporate Ads

MoveOn released two new television ads today tying Senate candidates Kelly Ayotte in New Hampshire and Rand Paul in Kentucky to the National Chamber of Commerce. The ads come on the heels of tax fraud accusations made this week against the Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber has spent over \$1 million in the New Hampshire race and went up yesterday with over \$300,000 of ad space in Kentucky. They have committed to spending \$75 million through the entire election.

The ads, titled "The Company They Keep," will run in Kentucky and New Hampshire for a week and are part of a new campaign to expose shadowy corporate groups that are trying to influence local elections.

The ads, that start off by saying, "you can judge a person by the company they keep," attack the National Chamber for being accused of tax fraud and using money meant for charity for partisan purposes. The ads also point out that the Chamber is paying big money to support Ayotte and Paul and ends by asking voters how Ayotte and Paul can be on their side if they are standing with the Chamber.

You can see the ads here:

Ayotte: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xgCjkG4w6eA>

Paul: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HZ-D4vfcYDE>

Today's ads are the first in a new program launched Tuesday to fight back against the flood of corporate and billionaire financed advertisements being run in support of Republican candidates nationwide.

"The recent charges of tax fraud against the National Chamber of Commerce come on the heels of the Chamber committing \$75 million dollars to buy this election for Republicans" said Justin Ruben, Executive Director of MoveOn.org. "According to press accounts they used money meant for charity to advance their far-right wing political agenda. By aligning themselves with an organization who will use any means necessary to advance their cause of making it easier to outsource jobs and line CEOs pockets, Kelly Ayotte and Rand Paul are showing their true colors. The country needs more candidates standing up for middle class Americans, not corporate interests."

MoveOn.org Political Action is a political action committee powered by 5 million progressive Americans. We believe in the power of small donors and grassroots action to elect progressive leaders to office and to advance a progressive agenda. We do not accept any donations over \$5,000, and the average donation to MoveOn.org Political Action is under \$100.

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New Hampshire Script/Documentation

<u>SCRIPT</u>	<u>DOCUMENTATION:</u>
<p>They say you can judge a person by the company they keep. Well, Senate Candidate Kelly Ayotte is getting a million dollars worth of help from the Chamber of Commerce — a group recently accused of tax fraud-- taking money meant for charity and using it toward a partisan agenda</p>	<p>The Chamber of Commerce has spent over \$1.3 million to try and defeat Kelly Ayotte's opponent, Paul Hodes, in the New Hampshire Senate race (http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/politics/campaign/2010/spending/US-Chamber-Of-Commerce.html)</p> <p>Last week, the Chamber of Commerce was accused of committing tax fraud by the group Chamber Watch. According to <i>The New York Times</i>: "Lawyers for Chamber Watch said their research, based largely on public tax filings, found that none of the principal on some \$12 million in loans had been paid back and that the money appeared to have been given to the chamber's foundation for unrestricted use. The lawyers said that the money, in violation of nonprofit restrictions, was ultimately funneled to the chamber itself and used to finance broader political causes." (http://www.nytimes.com/2010/09/11/us/politics/11chamber.html)</p> <p>And according to Chamber Watch: "U.S. Chamber Watch, a nonprofit organization dedicated to exposing the agenda and activity of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, has filed an IRS complaint charging the Chamber with illegally laundering more than \$18 million from insurance giant AIG's charitable foundation (run by former Chairman and CEO Hank Greenberg) to the U.S. Chamber's political coffers. Documents filed with the government indicate that the money intended for charity work was used instead to fund AIG and the U.S. Chamber's campaign to fight corporate accountability laws and re-elect President Bush." (http://www.fixtheuschamber.org/sites/default/files/press_release.pdf)</p> <p>The complaint filed by Chamber Watch to the IRS reads: <i>"Based on US Chamber Watch's research, it appears that charitable funds were transferred by the AIG-affiliated Starr Foundation to the NCF [National Chamber Foundation, the US Chamber's c3 organization] and then to the CCUSA [the US Chamber of Commerce, a c6 organization] to support the CCUSA's lobbying and electoral agenda - an agenda that appears to have benefited AIG. These transfers were made while then AIG CEO and Chairman Maurice ("Hank") Greenberg was also Chairman of the Starr Foundation Board, a member of the CCUSA Board, and a member of the Institute for Legal Reform Board (ILR), which is affiliated with the CCUSA. The evidence indicates that the Starr Foundation grants were taxable expenditures; the NCF transfers to CCUSA were likewise taxable and the Government should recover appropriate tax payments from both organizations. Finally, because the NCF transfers constituted a major portion of NCF's activities for the period in question, NCF's status as a</i></p>

of tax cuts for the wealthy, **denying** Americans better health care, and **cutting** jobs for teachers and first responders—all to protect the massive profits of their millionaire friends on Wall Street.

If Kelly Ayotte's on *their* side, do you think she'd be on yours?
End Card:
Kelly Ayotte & the Chamber of Commerce: Wrong for New Hampshire

charitable organization should be retroactively revoked."(http://www.fixtheuschamber.org/sites/default/files/press_release.pdf)

The Chamber of Commerce has called President Obama's plan to let President Bush's tax cuts for people who make \$250,000 expire "a corporate bullet in the head."

(<http://thehill.com/blogs/on-the-money/domestic-taxes/114451-chamber-economist-obama-tax-increases-are-a-bullet-in-the-head>)

And according to the Politico's article on the Chamber's opposition to letting the cuts expire: "the U.S. Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday will usher into town executives from more than 40 small-to-medium-sized businesses for a tax policy briefing that will close with a lobbying blitz on Capitol Hill.

(<http://www.politico.com/news/stories/0910/42112.html#ixzz0zXUZy28I>)

The Chamber of Commerce spent tens of millions of dollars fighting health care reform legislation. According to *The New York Times*: "The chamber, which has enlisted the support of numerous conservative groups, has fired off more than \$24 million worth of [advertisements](#) in the last 30 days alone, arguing that an overhaul would cost jobs, raise taxes and increase the deficit in a shaky economy."

(<http://prescriptions.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/11/22/of-eggnog-and-advocacy/>) And according to *The Washington Post*, during the health care legislation fight "The U.S.

Chamber of Commerce and an assortment of national business groups opposed to President Obama's health-care reform effort are collecting money to finance an economic study that could be used to portray the legislation as a job killer and threat to the nation's economy, according to an e-mail solicitation from a top Chamber official."

(<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/11/15/AR2009111503159.html?hpid=topnews>)

The Chamber was opposed to the Education Jobs Bill, which will, according to the *Washington Post*: "save the jobs of thousands of teachers and other government workers." (<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/08/10/AR2010081004201.html>)

Before the House of Representatives voted on the legislation, The Chamber sent a letter stating: "The U.S. Chamber of Commerce (...) strongly opposes H.R. 1586, which would impose draconian tax increases on American

worldwide companies that would hinder job creation, decrease the competitiveness of American businesses, and deter economic growth.

(http://republicans.waysandmeans.house.gov/UploadedFiles/Chamber_100805_HR1586_TaxIncreasesonAmericanWorldwideCompanies_House.pdf)

The CEO of the Chamber of Commerce recently remarked: "I am personally troubled about the way we have been treating not only business leaders but – let's go there – bankers, people that run health-care companies, people that run oil companies. They are being hauled up to the Congress ... and beat up like unruly children for the TV cameras." (http://www.csmonitor.com/USA/Politics/monitor_breakfast/2010/0621/Q-A-with-US-Chamber-of-Commerce-CEO-Tom-Donohue)

The Chamber of Commerce also spent millions of dollars to try and defeat Financial Reform legislation that would reign in big banks and protect consumers. In letter to the House of Representatives detailing their opposition to the House version of financial reform, the Chamber said: "strongly opposes the Conference Report for H.R. 4173, the "Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act," because it would fail to fix effectively the outdated, broken financial regulatory system, would unnecessarily affect companies that had nothing to do with the financial crisis, and would not create the efficient, liquid, and transparent capital markets America needs to fuel long-term economic growth and job creation."

(http://static1.firedoglake.com/37/files/2010/06/100628_HR4173_DoddFrankWallStreetReform_ConferenceReport_Congress.pdf)