

card to verify their legality refutes everything that is right and good about America. It is blind and unfair. It fans the flames of prejudice. Does anyone doubt who will be asked to present a card? All too easily administrators will fall back on old prejudices for guidance. Someone is not any less an American because of the color of their skin or because their last name is new to a neighborhood.

I view H.R. 2202 as nothing but a political ploy orchestrated by the Republican Party to once again appease their supporters, to retain and build upon their majority. By forcing Democrats to go along, or be criticized for not doing the politically in thing, the Republican majority is once again playing games with extremely important issues. I will not be a part of playing their games and trampling on the spirit of ethnic pride in Rhode Island and the United States.

CONSERVATIVES ATTACK SLAUGHTER AS SHE FILES COMPLAINT AGAINST MCINTOSH

HON. LOUISE MCINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 26, 1996

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, please insert the following article as additional documentation to my statement on March 22, 1996, regarding the need for the conduct of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct to be beyond reproach.

[From Gannett News Service, Dec. 5, 1995]
CONSERVATIVES ATTACK SLAUGHTER AS SHE
FILES COMPLAINT AGAINST MCINTOSH

(By John Machacek)

Rep. Louise Slaughter, D-NY., Tuesday filed an ethics complaint against a Republican subcommittee chairman. But she faces a counterattack from conservatives.

The complaint to the House Ethics Committee alleges Rep. David McIntosh, R-Ind., used fabricated documents and made false statements on the House floor during his drive to limit lobbying by federally funded nonprofit groups. Consumer activist Ralph Nader has filed a similar complaint.

Slaughter said McIntosh's actions were part of a "campaign of intimidation" aimed at silencing her and the Alliance for Justice, a civil rights and public interest lobbying group, which has vigorously opposed proposed Republican budget cuts.

"These actions . . . are way over the line," Slaughter said. "It's McCarthyism all over again, and we have to stop it."

Meanwhile, Americans for Tax Reform, a conservative group pushing McIntosh's legislation, is calling Slaughter the "original tax-dollars-for-lobbyists welfare queen" in postcards mailed to some of her constituents.

The mailing says Slaughter received \$61,000 in campaign contributions last year "from special-interest lobbies that receive federal funds, which is used to lobby for more money."

"We wanted to draw attention to Louise Slaughter as the best-paid lobbyist these special interests could buy," says Audrey Mullen, executive director of Americans for Tax Reform, a coalition of conservative activists, taxpayer groups and businesses.

McIntosh, chairman of a House Government Reform subcommittee, brushed off the complaint, telling reporters that Slaughter

and the Alliance for Justice were simply following the "first rule of special-interest politics."

"When your position on the merits of the issue is embarrassing, you launch an attack on your opponents," he said.

McIntosh's aides told reporters in October—after the House rejected Slaughter's request to debate her complaint against him—that he was not worried about Slaughter's plans to take her case to the Ethics Committee.

After "informal contacts" between House Ethics Committee and McIntosh staffers, McIntosh was told there "wouldn't be enough of a complaint" for the committee to pursue, said Chris Jones, McIntosh's press secretary.

The Ethics Committee staff makes recommendations to committee members.

Slaughter said in an interview Tuesday that McIntosh's "intimidation tactics" had continued through this week. She said a McIntosh aide told her staff McIntosh could file a counter-ethics complaint against her if a complaint was filed against him.

"Louise Slaughter can't have it both ways," Jones said. "Her staff has been calling Indiana reporters since September trying to stir up a story about an ethics complaint. If the Ethics Committee is to be used to solve political disputes, then everyone will be fair game."

McIntosh has apologized for the incident in which his staff used the Alliance for Justice's letterhead on a report that purported to list the amount of federal grants received by the alliance's members. He said the document should have contained a disclaimer. But he has recently told groups in Indiana that he stands by the figures.

Slaughter and Aron, Alliance for Justice president, say some of the information in the document was inaccurate.