

Bobby Jindal

FOUR MORE YEARS: JINDAL AN “OBSESSIVE” BUSH REPUBLICAN

Washington Times: Jindal, A Former Bush Appointee, “Maintains A Good Relationship” With The President. “At 25, Mr. Jindal became Louisiana’s secretary of health and hospitals. At 30, he was nominated by President Bush to be an assistant secretary at the Department of Health and Human Services....The governor maintains a good relationship with Mr. Bush and members of his administration.” [Washington Times, 5/5/08]

Bobby Jindal Was “A Central Figure” On Medicare Policy In The Bush White House. “Bobby Jindal, a central figure on Medicare policy in the Bush administration, announced today that he was resigning to return home to Louisiana. He is a potential Republican candidate for governor there this year.” [New York Times, 2/14/08]

As A Bush Appointee, Jindal Got “Plenty Of Face Time” With Bush And Rove. “One candidate in the 13-candidate field...is Bobby Jindal, who was an assistant secretary of Health and Human Services until he quit to announce his candidacy. In that job, he got plenty of face time with Bush and top political adviser Karl Rove, who did not discourage his political ambitions. ‘I wouldn’t have left that job if the White House told me not to,’ Jindal said.” [Washington Post, 4/30/03]

Jindal Toed The Party Line Over 80% Of The Time. “He has mostly toed the party line. He remains true to his conservative roots on social issues, opposing abortion in all circumstances, embryonic stem-cell research and gun control. According to Congressional Quarterly, Jindal voted with Republicans 81 percent of the time this year, and 88 percent a year ago.” [Times-Picayune (New Orleans), 9/27/07]

The Economist: Jindal Was “As Reliable A Rubber-Stamp As George Bush Had In Congress.” The Economist wrote, “[Jindal] is a religious conservative who was as reliable a rubber-stamp as George Bush had in Congress, refusing to make a fuss even when Republicans there were blaming New Orleans for Katrina.” [The Economist, 10/27/07]

Shreveport Times Columnist: “Jindal Has Been Obsessively Loyal To The President.” “I’m not so sure the pundits are right that Jindal can escape eventual outrage from state voters who know that Bush has chosen Baghdad over Katrina-torn New Orleans. Jindal has been obsessively loyal to the president.” [The Shreveport Times, Column, 2/26/07]

JINDAL SIDED WITH BUSH OVER CONSTITUENTS ON HURRICANE RECOVERY

Disregarding His Constituents’ Needs, Jindal Sided With The Bush Administration And Opposed Emergency Funding for Hurricane Recovery. Jindal “voted against a spending bill that contained \$8.9 billion for hurricane recovery but also included a Democrat-supported timetable to withdraw U.S.

troops from Iraq that was opposed by the Bush administration.” [Times-Picayune (New Orleans), 9/27/07; HR 2206, Vote #333, 5/10/07]

Jindal Applauded Bush’s Speech On Hurricane Recovery. Speaking about Bush’s visit to New Orleans to discuss issues surrounding the hurricane recovery, Jindal said, “Well, I think there were three or four good things he did talk about, a team of inspector generals for accountability. He did make a commitment to rebuilding a region. He talked about job incentives, which I think is very important. It’s not just about spending money. It’s also about creating jobs. He did talk about being better prepared next time.” [CNN American Morning, 9/16/05]

Jindal Praised Bush For Appointing Overseer Of Hurricane Recovery. “Jindal said he is pleased that Bush acted despite his previous reluctance to name a federal recovery czar.... ‘I am hopeful that this position can be a point person on the ground, able to provide answers for local officials, direction for the recovery efforts, and the decision-making ability to get the job done,’ Jindal said.” [Times-Picayune, 11/2/05]

JINDAL MIMICKED BUSH ON IRAQ

Jindal Mimicked Bush’s With Us Or Against Us Logic, Anti-French Rhetoric. “Upset at France’s opposition to the U.S.-led war in Iraq, gubernatorial candidate Bobby Jindal, a leading candidate for the Republican nomination, said he favors formally disinviting French President Jacques Chirac from the state’s bicentennial celebration of the Louisiana Purchase. Lt. Gov. Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, one of Jindal’s opponents, invited Chirac and President Bush to the Dec. 20 fete. ‘If President Chirac is unwilling to stand with President Bush and the United States shoulder-to-shoulder in Iraq, then he shouldn’t be allowed to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with President Bush in Louisiana,’ said Jindal, who until February was an assistant secretary in the Department of Health and Human Services.” [Washington Post, 4/6/03]

LIKE BUSH, JINDAL THOUGHT FUNDING LAW ENFORCEMENT WASN’T A PRIORITY

Jindal Voted Against \$676 Million for Local Law Enforcement And COPS. In 2005, Jindal voted against amendment that would add \$100 million for justice assistance grants to state and local law enforcement and \$100 million for law enforcement grants under the Community Oriented Policing Services program, offset by a \$200 million decrease for NASA. In 2006, Jindal voted against an amendment to the FY 07 SSJC appropriations bill that would have provided an additional \$476 million to the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program. The extra money would come out of NASA’s budget. [HR 2862, Vote #244, 6/14/05; HR 5672, Vote # 341, 6/28/06; CQ Today, 6/28/06]

Jindal Opposed A Raise For Police Officers, Claiming It Wasn’t A Priority. In a 2003 gubernatorial primary debate, a sharp exchange occurred between Richard Ieyoub and Jindal on the issue of supplemental pay for police officers. Ieyoub has proposed giving Louisiana’s 17,000 sheriff’s deputies a \$200 monthly boost in supplemental pay. But Jindal said the state couldn’t afford the price tag, saying “I don’t think, as candidates for governor, we can be Santa Claus...We can’t promise everything to every group.” [Times-Picayune, 8/29/03]

LIKE BUSH, JINDAL OPPOSED HELPING CHILDREN AND SENIORS SECURE HEALTH CARE

Jindal Opposed Expansion Of Health Care For Children And Seniors. Jindal voted against passage of the bill that would authorize roughly \$86 billion over five years for the State Children's Health Insurance Program and for changes to certain Medicare benefit programs. According to the Washington Post, the bill included two "noteworthy innovations. It would focus additional federal health-care spending on ensuring that poor children eligible for coverage actually receive it. And it would end expensive and unnecessary subsidies for managed-care programs for seniors while making new efforts to help the poorest seniors." [HR 3162, Vote #787, 8/1/07; Washington Post, 7/30/07]

JINDAL BROUGHT HOME THE PORK WHILE IN CONGRESS

Jindal Got More Than \$100 Million In Earmarks In 2007, More Than Any Other Member Of LA House Delegation. "Republican Gov. Bobby Jindal has taken to beating up on earmarks, promising to veto the expensive riders if lawmakers are unable to justify their requests. For Jindal, however, it's another case of 'do as I say, not as I do.' As a congressman from Kenner last year, Jindal secured 26 earmarks totaling more than \$100 million, according to Citizens Against Government Waste, a national advocacy group. That's more than any other member of Louisiana's House delegation. Considering Jindal missed as many votes in Congress as he made while running for governor last year, his 26 earmarks represent a notable milestone. U.S. Sen. John McCain of Arizona, the presumptive Republican nominee for president who is reportedly eyeing Jindal as a potential vice-presidential running mate, has also taken a well-publicized stance against budgetary pork. [Gambit Weekly, 6/10/08]

Jindal Co-Sponsored An Earmark For A Louisiana Company That Donated To His Campaigns. "Gov. Bobby Jindal co-sponsored the 3001 Inc. earmark as a U.S. representative before being elected governor. Company donors contributed \$3,000 to Jindal's federal campaigns and \$10,000 to his gubernatorial bid in 2003. Jindal spokeswoman Melissa Sellers said her boss supported the 3001 earmark because it would increase the number of jobs in the state. 'While in Congress, the governor voted many times to eliminate earmarks,' Sellers said in a written statement. 'He was one of the Louisiana congressional members who supported the earmark that created jobs and boosted economic development critical to the future growth of Louisiana.'" [The Advocate, 6/8/08]

JINDAL HOLDS EXTREME RIGHT-WING VIEWS

Jindal Voted To Give Parental Rights To Rapists. Jindal voted against a motion to recommit legislation on parental notification to bar fathers who have committed rape or incest against a minor that resulted in a pregnancy from being able to sue the doctor who performed the abortion. [Congressional Quarterly Today, 4/27/05; HR 748, Vote #143, 4/27/05]

Jindal Supported Public Expressions Of Religion In Public Government Buildings. "Jindal also has said he would be more open to expressions of religion in public buildings, though he said he has no specific plan to require the posting of any specific material. He ran a radio ad on the controversy concerning the removal of a Ten Commandments monument from an Alabama court building. 'Which of the Ten Commandments is so scary and threatening to the American people that it should be removed from a public courthouse?' Jindal asked. The commandments, he said, are universally accepted morals endorsed by many religions, and therefore not an exclusive endorsement of Christianity. Jindal,

however, said he does not support the Alabama judge's flouting of a federal order to remove the monument. 'We live in a society of laws, and we have to follow those laws,' he said." [Times-Picayune, 11/2/03]

Jindal Supported Teaching Intelligent Design. During the 2007 gubernatorial race, "When pressed on how his Catholic beliefs would affect his governance, Jindal said he would back the teaching of 'intelligent design' and other theories that question evolution. He said children should learn 'what different theories are out there. Not all things are answerable by science. Let them decide for themselves.'" [Associated Press, 9/28/07]

Jindal on ethics: "Do as I Say, Not as I Do"

Gov. Jindal Operates On A "Do As I Say, Not As I Do" Philosophy On Ethics. "National onlookers might be impressed with the ethics of Gov. Bobby Jindal, but here at home his administration is earning a reputation for being anything but transparent... while Jindal and his staff have relentlessly touted such accomplishments [ethic reform legislation that limits what lobbyists can spend on lawmakers and other decision-makers] from their first few months in office, many lawmakers, government watchdog agencies and Louisiana media outlets are discovering that the new governor often operates with a 'Do as I Say, Not as I Do' philosophy." [Independent Weekly, Column, 5/7/08, http://www.theind.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=2455&Itemid=73]

JINDAL: QUESTIONS OF EXPERIENCE (OR INEXPERIENCE) ABOUND

Los Angeles Times: Jindal Might Be "Regarded As Too Green To Be Second In Line To The Presidency." "Choosing Jindal could appeal to younger voters. But he may be regarded as too green to be second in line to the presidency, particularly when the McCain campaign's central line of attack against Obama is that he is too inexperienced to be president." [Los Angeles Times, 5/22/08]

National Review Columnist: A Jindal Pick Would "Seem Like A Gimmick" And Undermine McCain's Experience Argument. "At age 36, the still-green Jindal might not only seem like a gimmick, but he would undermine McCain on two fronts: He'd remind voters of McCain's age, and he'd diminish the anti-Obama argument that experience, particularly in foreign policy, really matters." [National Review, Jonah Goldberg column, 5/23/08]

Chicago Tribune Columnist: Jindal Lacks "Experience On Matters Of National Security." "John McCain spent some time the other day looking over possible vice presidential nominees, including Florida Gov. Charlie Crist, former rival Mitt Romney and Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal. The choice of a running mate is especially important for McCain because he would be the oldest person ever to become president, at 72. So his first priority should be to find a vice president who is ready from Day 1 to take over if the worst should happen. None of these prospects qualifies...Jindal is 36 years old, barely above the minimum age for the office, and was elected governor only last fall. All are conspicuously lacking in experience on matters of national security." [Chicago Tribune, Steve Chapman column, 5/28/08]