



# HAMILTON COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

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## P R E S S   R E L E A S E F O R   I M M E D I A T E   R E L E A S E

**June 17, 2008**

**For further information, contact: Timothy M. Burke  
(513) 721-5525**

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Hamilton County Democratic Party Chair Tim Burke today sent a letter to Representative Jean Schmidt asking that she retract false statements she made on the floor of the House of Representatives claiming the Chinese were drilling for oil off the coast of Florida.

“We teach our children to tell the truth and admit when they have made a mistake. What kind of message does Jean Schmidt send if she refuses to retract blatantly false statements made on the floor of the House of Representatives and now preserved forever in the Congressional Record?” said Burke.

“With the highest gas prices in our nation’s history, Jean Schmidt has done nothing but rubberstamp George Bush’s policies and cozy up to big oil. Attempting to create a new red scare that the communists are drilling for oil off the Florida coast does nothing to solve the problem her constituents face. Ohio families deserve better.”

Attached is a copy of the letter Burke sent to Schmidt.

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# HAMILTON COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

tburke@manleyburke.com

June 17, 2008

United States Representative Jean Schmidt  
8044 Montgomery Road, Suite 540  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45236

Dear Congresswoman Schmidt:

In light of the article in this morning's *Enquirer*, on behalf of all of the residents of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District, I request that you immediately retract the statements you made on the floor of the United States House of Representatives on June 5<sup>th</sup> that "the Chinese are drilling off the coast of Florida."

While others, including the Vice President, may have made the same erroneous statement. As you must know by now, as the Vice President has acknowledged, that wild claim is simply false.

It is imperative on you to acknowledge the inaccuracy of your statement and set the record straight. Your constituents are already having enough difficulty dealing with skyrocketing gasoline prices and a failing economy. You don't need to stir them up with false claims of a red scare off the beaches of Florida.

Sincerely,

Timothy M. Burke  
Chair  
Hamilton County Democratic Party

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