

Mark Foley scandal / Dennis Hastert should resign as House Speaker

< Mark Foley scandal

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Position: Dennis Hastert should resign as House Speaker

This position addresses the topic Mark Foley scandal.

For this position

“ At the least, Hastert's departure as speaker would remove a major vestige of the DeLay years. At the most, it could lead to the emergence of a fresh, untainted face as House speaker – perhaps Rep. John Shadegg, R-Ariz., or Rep. Mike Pence, R-Ind. – instead of another former DeLay lieutenant.” ”

From Time for goodbyes, by The San Diego Union-Tribune editorial board (*The San Diego Union-Tribune*, October 6, 2006) (view)

“ In this case, defending Denny Hastert's decisions is ethically wrong, would undermine our party's commitment to the defense of traditional moral values and is politically stupid in the bargain.” ”

From Republican integrity, by Tony Blankley (*The Washington Times*, October 4, 2006) (view)

“ House Speaker Dennis Hastert must do the only right thing, and resign his speakership at once. Either he was grossly negligent for not taking the red flags fully into account and ordering a swift investigation, for not even remembering the order of events leading up to last week's revelations -- or he deliberately looked the other way in hopes that a brewing scandal would simply blow away.” ”

From Resign, Mr. Speaker, by The Washington Times editorial board (*The Washington Times*, October 3, 2006) (view)

“ Hastert should have stepped aside as speaker more than a week ago, telling voters that he will roll up his sleeves and get to the bottom of the Foley sex scandal in the months ahead. Instead he is making the political problem worse. Every time he appears in public he not only reminds voters of GOP corruption, but of the fact he has done nothing about it.” ”

From Mr. Hastert, Move Out of the Way, by Larry Kudlow (*National Review*, October 16, 2006) (view)

Against this position

“ “As for the alleged arrogance of the House leadership, what was Hastert supposed to have done? Contrary to the impression given in initial press reports, in 2005 Hastert did not see the damning instant message traffic that brought Foley down. What he saw were emails that were not sexual or lurid, but merely inappropriately friendly.” ”

From Sex Scandals and Double Standards, by Charles Krauthammer (*The Weekly Standard*, October 8, 2006) (view)

“ “Hastert took responsibility for mishandling the case, said he's deeply sorry for the episode and promised to better protect the young pages who do errands for members of Congress. Should Hastert also resign as speaker? Based on what we know now, the answer is no.” ”

From Blame me ... but not too much, by Chicago Tribune editorial board (*Chicago Tribune*, October 6, 2006) (view)

Mixed on this position

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