

GEORGE ALLEN

08 WATCH: DECEMBER 2005



IN FOCUS:

Allen Flip-Flopped to Be More Conservative on Hate-Crimes Legislation.

“Allen, after coming under fire from some social conservatives for a 2004 vote, plans to reverse course next time and oppose making hate crimes against gay people a federal offense...In 2004, Allen voted the opposite way on an amendment in the Senate.” Despite the clear change of position, Allen sent his spokesperson out saying, “I wouldn't define it as a flip-flop.” [[Richmond Times-Dispatch](#), 12/13/05]

IN HIS OWN WORDS: ALLEN BLAMES KILGORE FOR VA LOSS

“The turnout in the Iraqi elections was higher than we had in the Virginia elections. Somebody said, ‘Maybe it was because they had better candidates.’” [[Richmond Times Dispatch](#), 11/20/05]

BUZZ WATCH:

Allen Is the “Conventional Wisdom Pick.” Chris Cillizza wrote that Allen “continues to cement his status as one of the nominal frontrunners for the nomination by simply not making any major mistakes...Sources allied with Allen rivals sought to spin Virginia Attorney General Jerry Kilgore's (R) gubernatorial loss last month as a blow for the senator, but that seems like pretty thin gruel. Barring an unforeseen pitfall, Allen will enter 2006 as the conventional wisdom pick for the nomination, especially among the party's conservative base.” [[The Fix on Washingtonpost.com](#), 12/2/05]

Dick Morris Said Allen Suffered “Loss of Prestige” After Kilgore Loss. “Senator George Allen of Virginia has suffered a loss of prestige with the victory of Democrat Tim Kaine over Republican Jerry Kilgore for governor in his home state after the senator had vigorously backed the unsuccessful GOP contender.” [[Pittsburgh Tribune Review](#), 12/11/05]

Allen is at 3 Percent in National Polls Among Republicans. A November NBC News/Wall Street Journal Poll revealed that, when Republican voters nationwide were asked, “If the 2008 Republican presidential primary were held today, whom would you support,” only three percent would support Allen. [[NBC News/Wall Street Journal Poll](#), <http://www.pollingreport.com/2008.htm>]

Allen's Losing His Staff. Allen's re-election campaign manager left to run the 2006 re-election bid of Republican Governor Mark Sanford in South Carolina. In addition, John Sherman, the long-time treasurer for Allen's Good Government for America political action committee, resigned. [[Richmond Times-Dispatch](#), 11/23/05; Hotline on Call, 12/15/05]

RHETORIC WATCH:

Allen Rallied Republican Faithful in VA. In his speech at Republican Advance, Allen laid out a lengthy policy agenda built around the core concepts of low taxes, limited government and strong national defense. “He blasted ‘activist judges’ and voiced support for the nomination of Samuel Alito to the U.S. Supreme Court. He called for a new energy policy and vowed to fight efforts to levy taxes on Internet access. And, speaking to reporters after his speech, Allen said he rejects calls for setting a date for withdrawing U.S. troops from Iraq, saying: ‘All that does is play into the hands of the terrorists.’” Allen

also “lifted conservative Republican spirits with a rhetoric that bashed ‘avaricious local and state tax commissars’ and called for energy independence so America isn’t ‘jerked around’ by foreign oil interests.” [[Roanoke Times](#), 12/4/05; [Daily Press](#), 12/6/05]

DAY JOB:

Allen Said He Would Have Met With Cindy Sheehan a Second Time. “Bush did not meet a second time with mother Cindy Sheehan, whose son was killed in Iraq. Allen has said the president should have done so, ‘He should have told Sheehan that her son was a hero.’” [[Newport Daily Press](#), 12/6/05]

After Supporting Bush, Allen Now Seems To Be Questioning War Intelligence. Allen told the [Richmond Times-Dispatch](#) in 2003 that, “Bush is right on target in defining the continuing threat posed by the deceptive Saddam Hussein and other dangerous, rogue regimes that not only possess weapons of mass destruction, but who have proven they will use these weapons or support terrorists around the world.” But Allen said recently on CNN, “The purpose of [the pre-war intelligence investigation] is to determine whether the White House manipulated the intelligence used to justify the war.” [[Roll Call](#), 11/16/05]

Allen Voted To Extend The PATRIOT Act. In 2005, Allen voted to end a filibuster on a bill to extend the PATRIOT Act’s authorities to combat terrorism, some provisions of which are set to expire on December 31, 2005. President Bush has said he would veto a three-month extension, arguing it would be inadequate. But without an extension, 16 provisions would expire at the end of the year. [Senate vote 358, HR 3199, Failed 52-47 (60 votes needed) 12/16/05; AP, 12/16/05]

MONEY UPDATE:

Allen Said He Wanted to Hit Up Virginia for Money Until Next Year. “Allen had been raising campaign cash outside Virginia to avoid draining resources from 2005 statewide candidates. ‘People will see me groveling a lot more in Virginia than I did last year,’ Allen said.” [[Roanoke Times](#), 12/4/05]

Insiders: Allen Doesn’t Have the Temperament To Raise the Money For A Presidential. According to a recent article in [National Journal](#), “Allen's friends and associates worry that he lacks the patience to raise the necessary tens of millions of dollars. ‘He is better at closing the deal than making the sale,’ said one Republican who is in regular contact with top GOP fundraisers. By choice and temperament, Allen is not close to his party's major fundraisers. When he chaired the NRSC, other Republican officials complained that he repeatedly failed to show up for scheduled fundraising call sessions. Unlike virtually every other candidate who is thinking about running in 2008, Allen does not have a deep bench of fundraisers seeking commitments on his behalf. And he has no single fundraising sherpa to guide his strategy. GOP donors familiar with Allen's history predict that he will try to attract donations by virtue of his popularity with the party's political insiders and its conservative base.” [[National Journal](#), 12/17/05]

Allen’s Senate Campaign Raised \$1.3 Million in Third Quarter. “Senator George Allen raised roughly \$1.3 million toward his 2006 re-election campaign in the third quarter of this year, less than in each of the two previous quarters, and his campaign has about \$5.5 million on hand.” [[Richmond Times Dispatch](#), 10/15/05]

Related George Allen Money Groups:

- **Good Government for America Committee** had \$218,143 cash on hand as of June 30, 2005.
- **Virginia Victory PAC** holds \$32,819 in cash on hand as of September 30, 2005.

[www.tray.com]

2005 SCHEDULE RECAP:

12/10/05—Asheville, NC: Allen was the special guest speaker at Rep. Charles Taylor's, R-Brevard, fourteenth annual Holiday Dinner at the Grove Park Inn in Asheville. The event was held in the Inn's Grand Ball Room. The Charles Taylor Fourteenth Annual Holiday Dinner is the largest sit-down political dinner in North Carolina. [[Smoky Mountain News](#), 11/30/05]

2005 TRAVEL SUMMARY	
IA	0
NH	3
SC	2
OTHER	5

11/23/05—China, India, Pakistan and Taiwan: Over the week of Thanksgiving, Allen traveled to China, India, Pakistan and Taiwan. A member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Allen met with international and business leaders in a trip focused on international relations and trade. His itinerary included Thanksgiving dinner in Beijing with the U.S. ambassador to China and a group of U.S. students studying there. His wife, Susan, accompanied him. [[Richmond Times-Dispatch](#), 11/13/05]

11/12-13/05—Sea Island, GA: Allen spent the weekend in Sea Island, GA for the NRSC Senate Council's Fall Weekend. [www.nrsc.org]