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Rep. Kolbe's statement regarding Rep. Foley's email contacts with former pages

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**Congressman Jim Kolbe
8TH DISTRICT ARIZONA**

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Korenna Cline

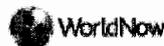
KOLBE STATEMENT

WASHINGTON, D.C. -Rep. Jim Kolbe (R-AZ) released the following statement regarding Rep. Foley.

"I have been contacted by news organizations about former Rep. Foley's e-mail contacts with former pages. This is my best recollection of the single incident I was made aware of."

"Some time after leaving the Page program, an individual I had appointed as a Page contacted my office to say he had received e-mails from Rep. Foley that made him uncomfortable. I was not shown the content of the messages and was not told they were sexually explicit. It was my recommendation that this complaint be passed along to Rep. Foley's office and the Clerk who supervised the Page program. This was done promptly. I did not have a personal conversation with Mr. Foley about the matter. I assume e-mail contact ceased since the former Page never raised the issue again with my office. I believed then, and believe now, that this was the appropriate way to handle this incident given the information I had and the fact that the young man was no longer a Page and not subject to the jurisdiction of the program."

"I began my own political career as a Page for Sen. Barry Goldwater in 1958. As a result, I have a special empathy for the program and have always sought to make the experience a meaningful one for them. I visit with the Pages at the back of the chamber to explain politics and parliamentary procedures on the House Floor. I have written college and graduate school recommendations for scores of the young men and women, and I have always participated in various official page activities when asked to do so by the program, such as speaking at their graduation.



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