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Feb 12, 2008

## In Case You Missed It - It Will Be A Fierce Fight (Ouachita

Exerpt from Ouachita Citizen Column by Sammy Hanna

For as long as we can remember, there existed a practice in Louisiana to make money off government, using one's political connections to do it. There's absolutely nothing wrong with it as long as the practice is carried out by a private citizen and executed legally.

Yet, along the way, or since it became fashionable during the Huey Long era, some elected officials took it upon themselves to use their stations in life as public servants to manipulate the system for their own personal gain.

Or for the benefit of their friends and family members.

Over time, that behavior grew like cancer; it spread throughout all levels of government in

Over time as well, Louisiana earned a reputation for being the most corrupt state in America. You had to pay to play.

That reputation has harmed Louisiana whether we want to admit or not.

When Jindal talks about the urgent need to remake the state's image in the eyes of the people and the business community from coast to coast, he's speaking specifically about elected officials and the like manipulating the system to line their pockets with money at the expense of the people or the business community.

It must come to an end.

Read the full column here

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