

# Dianne Feinstein's husband owns part of the railroad industry. How does that connection affect rail road safety issues?

Tue, 19 May 2015 14:46:49, newstips66, []

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feinstein

### Dianne Feinstein's husband owns part of the railroad industry. How does that connection affect rail road safety issues.

- Do politicians stop train safety projects for political reasons, 60 Minutes says they do on their most recent episode.
- Dianne Feinstein arranged funding for Solyndra and Tesla. Her husband got the adjacent railroad property and construction contracts.
- She got funding for the new California train. His company got to build it.
- Over 40 suspicious conflicts of interest. Now, other suppliers are speaking out.
- A horrible series of train accidents gets people talking:

Richard Blum drags Dianne Feinstein to her next kick-back scheme

### A Message from President and CEO Joe Boardman Regarding Restoration of Service on the Northeast Corridor

*"At Amtrak, the safety of our passengers and crew remains our number one priority. Since the tragic derailment, Amtrak staff and crew have been working around the clock to repair the infrastructure necessary to restore service for all the passengers who travel along the Northeast Corridor. Our repairs have been made with the utmost care and emphasis on safety, including complete compliance with Federal Railroad Administration directives.*

*Effective with departures from Philadelphia at 5:53 a.m. (Train 110) and New York City at 5:30 a.m. (Train 111) on Monday, May 18, Amtrak will restore normal service on the Northeast Corridor.*

*Although service along the Northeast Corridor will begin again tomorrow, the derailment of Northeast Regional Train 188 is a tragedy that we at Amtrak will continue to mourn and are dedicated to learning from.*

*Thank you for your support of America's Railroad.*

**Sincerely,  
Joe Boardman, President and Chief Executive Officer**

## Insular U.S. Rail Industry Impedes Innovative Outsiders

By Robert J. Ahern –

Small, innovative companies in the U.S. are coming up with answers to some of the most pressing and persistent problems on America's railways. But they're being stonewalled at every turn by a hidebound, insular rail industry.

Rail travel, for both freight and passengers, is safer now than it has ever been. Yet the industry has been unable — or unwilling — to fix some issues. Failure of wheel bearings is one of them. Another is the

accidental uncoupling of cars.

In both of these cases, smart, independent companies have devised solutions only to be rebuffed by a railroad industry that is protective of its own suppliers and hostile to ideas that come from outside its closed culture. This behavior puts lives and freight at unnecessary risk.

After years of being frustrated by the rail industry at every turn, companies with new ideas have little choice but to turn to the federal government. Legislation is pending in Congress that would require the Federal Railroad Administration — the government agency that oversees the rail industry — to adopt and enforce mandatory safety standards that would ensure bearing failures, decoupling and other accidents do not happen. This would permit railroads to use any technology, from inside or outside the industry, that meets the standards.

Why is this needed? Consider the case of Columbus Castings, of Columbus, Ohio.

In 2008, the railroad industry, acknowledging that trains still accidentally uncouple, set a standard that any manufacturer must meet if it designed a device that would fix the problem.

Columbus Castings invented the Z-Knuckle, which prevents uncoupling. It met the industry's new standard. But in a strange twist, the industry refused to back the Z-Knuckle's use because it was the only device that met the standard. Instead, it simply chose not to enforce the standard. Never mind that Columbus Castings is the country's largest steel foundry and a maker of steel for many uses.

Several companies, including Amsted Rail, Standard Truck Car, National Railway Equipment and A. Stucki Co., have created advanced trucks — the framework that holds a rail car's four wheels — that are less likely to derail and use less energy, due to enhanced suspension. But these have been rejected by the railroad industry as well.

Likewise, the industry has shunned electronically controlled pneumatic braking systems that not only stop a train in a much shorter distance in an emergency, but give the engineer constant, real-time feedback on the train's braking system. Stage 8 Locking Fasteners of San Rafael, Calif., also a railroad industry outsider, has come up with an inexpensive solution that would virtually eliminate bearing-failure derailments. And, as with Columbus Castings, the railroad industry has stood in the way of safety and technology improvements.

Failure of wheel bearings — the round, metal rods inside a rail car's wheel assembly that help the wheels roll smoothly — are the nation's third-largest cause of train derailments, according to a 2012 University of Illinois study. Only broken rails and track irregularities cause more accidents annually.

Bearing failure typically leads to derailments. In the worst cases, derailments can cause injury, community disruption and death. These derailments happen because the screws holding the bearing end caps (which maintain proper tension in the bearing) vibrate loose after thousands of miles of service. The rail industry has tried for half a century to devise a reliable screw-locking technology of its own, but has not been able to do so. The best system the rail industry has been able to come up with allows a failure rate of 23 percent. That isn't good enough.

A better system was devised in 2009. Stage 8 invented the Cap Screw Locking System, which keeps rail or tank car wheel bearing end-cap screws from vibrating loose. But as soon as the invention was unveiled, the rail industry bureaucracy withheld approval of the product. The rail industry then demanded a field test for the Stage 8 device. After 150,000 miles of testing on the industry's own cars, the locking device showed no failures at all. And yet, the FRA and the Association of American Railroads continues to withhold approval.

So, who's really running our railroads? It's time for Congress to step in. Robert J. Ahern is director and executive vice president of Stage 8 Locking Fasteners Inc.

Read more:

[http://www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2014/09/13/insular\\_us\\_rail\\_industry\\_impedes\\_innovative\\_outsiders\\_123912.html#ixzz3aSkfyA2l](http://www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2014/09/13/insular_us_rail_industry_impedes_innovative_outsiders_123912.html#ixzz3aSkfyA2l)

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## [Your guide to Feinstein Corruption](#)

U.S. Sen. Diane **Feinstein's** husband Richard Blum, won the first phase construction contract for California's high-speed rail. I'm shocked, shocked I tell you.

[calwatchdog.com/2013/04/26/se-diane-feinsteins-husband-wi...](http://calwatchdog.com/2013/04/26/se-diane-feinsteins-husband-wi...)

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## [Senator Diane Feinstein - Open Corruption at The Highest](#)

SENATOR DIANE FEINSTEIN - OPEN CORRUPTION AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT 05-31-2013 6:03 am ... Senator **Feinstein** had been pushing for the high-speed rail plan unveiled by the Brown administration since 2012 that relies heavily on federal dollars, ...

[libertynewsonline.com/article\\_301\\_33364.php](http://libertynewsonline.com/article_301_33364.php)

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## [Sen. Dianne Feinstein's husband wins CA rail contract](#)

U.S. Sen. Diane **Feinstein's** husband Richard Blum won the first-phase construction contract for California's high-speed rail. I'm shocked, shocked I tell you. If I didn't witness the insanity and **corruption** in politics every day, I wouldn't have believed this. "The Perini-Zachary ...

[capoliticalreview.com/blog/sen-diane-feinsteins-husband-wins-ca...](http://capoliticalreview.com/blog/sen-diane-feinsteins-husband-wins-ca...)

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## [Senator Feinstein's Husband Wins \\$35 Mil Per Mile Rail .](#)

That famous golden spike takes on a whole new meaning with the nearly 1 billion dollar rail to nowhere contract that clocks in at a truly golden 35 million dollars per mile. And its recipient, Mr. Diane **Feinstein** owner of Tutor Perini, just happens to sit in a warm position near the top of the state

[frontpagemag.com/2013/dgreenfield/senator-feinsteins-husba...](#)

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## [California High Speed Rail Nepotism. | LibertyNEWS.com](#)

California High Speed Rail Nepotism. ... Naturally: California awards billion-dollar high speed rail contract to firm partly owned by Dianne **Feinstein's** husband : ... A question for Dianne **Feinstein**. DiFi and the culture of **corruption**

[LNlibertynews.com/2013/04/california-high-speed-rail-nepotism/](#)

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## [Naturally: California awards billion-dollar high speed rail ..](#)

Naturally: California awards billion-dollar high speed rail contract to firm partly owned by Dianne **Feinstein's** husband

[michellemalkin.com/2013/04/27/firm-dianne-feinstein-husband/](#)

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## [Dianne Feinstein's Husband Bags High-Speed Rail .](#)

Sen. Diane **Feinstein's** husband Richard Blum won a construction contract for California's high-speed rail project, reports the California Political Review.

[Ebreitbart.com/big-government/2013/04/30/sen-diane-feins...](#)

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## [Dianne Feinstein 's Husband Tied To Questionable Dealings ..](#)

This article has been updated with comment from **Feinstein's** office. See UPDATE below. Sen. Dianne **Feinstein** (D-Calif.) and her husband are tied to questionable dealings between the world's largest

[huffingtonpost.com/2013/12/12/dianne-feinstein-postal-servic...](#)

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## [Dianne Feinstein: Thy Name Is Corruption | Video Rebel's Blog](#)

Dianne **Feinstein** and her husband Richard Blum currently own a private jet, a Gulfstream G650, worth \$55 million in 2008. Blum and **Feinstein** also own The Carlton hotel in San Francisco.

[vidrebel.wordpress.com/2013/01/06/dianne-feinstein-thy-name-is-c...](#)

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## [Dianne Feinstein, the Most Corrupt Person in Congress, Routes .](#)

Dianne **Feinstein**, the Most Corrupt Individual in Congress, Routes Even More Government Money to Firm Owned by Her Husband Posted at 9:28 am on April 21, 2009

[sodahead.com/united-states/dianne-feinstein-the-most-c...](#)

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## [Senator Dianne Feinstein Corruption Buried by Major Media](#)

Mick Gregory **Feinstein's Corruption** Hidden by the SF Chronicle, LA Times and NY Times Appropriations Committees Chairs control billions of dollars that pass through their hands. California U.S. Senator Dianne **Feinstein** (D) chairs the Senate Rules Committee, but she's also a Cardinal.

[sadbastards.wordpress.com/2007/05/02/senator-dianne-feinstein-coru...](#)

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## [Corruption and the Transcontinental Railroad | WalterCoffey.com](#)

Building a **railroad** across America was a remarkable engineering feat. However, the alliance between corporations and government that built the **railroad** set a precedent for the wasteful and corrupt mismanagement of taxpayer money that flourishes today.

[waltercoffey.wordpress.com/2013/01/17/corruption-and-the-transcontin...](#)

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## [Dirty Business as Usual at California High Speed Rail ...](#)

High speed rail is indeed a boondoggle and the way the contract was awarded is dubious ... On **Feinstein**, I think it's just as likely the High Speed Rail Authority did it to curry **Feinstein's** favor, although **Feinstein** certainly could have pushed them.

[crazifonia.com/2013/04/16/dirty-business-as-usual-at-cal...](#)

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## [Feinstein's Hubby Wins CA High Speed Rail Contract](#)

Dirty Business as Usual at California High Speed Rail Out of the entire universe of those who could have won the first phase construction contract for Cali

[westernjournalism.com/feinsteins-hubby-wins-ca-high-speed-rail-...](#)

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## [Ridgecrest Blog: Feinstein Corruption Scandal](#)

**Feinstein Corruption** Scandal Last week California Senator Diane **Feinstein** abruptly resigned her position as the chairman and ranking member of the Senate Military Construction Appropriations Subcommittee (MILCON).

[ridgecrest.blogspot.com/2007/04/feinstein-corruption-scandal.html](#)

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## [Snopes Misses on Story of Collusion Between Sen. Feinstein ...](#)

It noted further that at a Post Office website ... Sen. **Feinstein** is not involved with and does not discuss any of her husband's ... Snopes often fails to dig deeply enough to discover the depth of **corruption** and deceit and denial in its efforts to "vet" a story like that from the ...

[thenewamerican.com/usnews/crime/item/15579-snopes-misses-lar...](#)

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## [Diane Feinstein's Husband Rakes in the Cash from Government ...](#)

Senator Dianne **Feinstein's** husband, Richard Blum, created the investment firm, Blum Capital. Blum Capital is part owner of the construction firm, Perini-Za

[godfatherpolitics.com/10687/diane-feinsteins-husband-rakes-in-t...](#)

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## [Feinstein-Blum Corruption, War Profiteering & The cover-Up ...](#)

**Feinstein-Blum Corruption, War Profiteering & The cover-Up, An Interview with Peter Byrne ...** This systemic **corruption** by **Feinstein** and her husband has been a story covered up by the San Francisco Chronicle and the rest

[indybay.org/newsitems/2009/04/05/18586270.php](http://indybay.org/newsitems/2009/04/05/18586270.php)  
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## [Corruption and the Transcontinental Railroad | Texas Patriots](#)

Building a **railroad** across America was a remarkable engineering feat. However, the alliance between corporations and government that built the **railroad** set a precedent for the wasteful and corrupt mismanagement of taxpayer money that flourishes today.

[texaspatriotspac.com/articles/corruption-and-transcontinental-...](http://texaspatriotspac.com/articles/corruption-and-transcontinental-...)  
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## [Culture of Corruption : Mainstream Media Ignore Feinstein's](#)

Whatever happened to the notion of the "favorite son"? You know: the idea that a candidate's home state rallies around him. When it comes to former Massachusetts governor Mitt Romney, the Boston Globe seems to be adopting a mirror-image attitude. Call it the "disfavored son" approach to politics.

[newsbusters.org/node/12481](http://newsbusters.org/node/12481)  
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## [High-Speed Rail: If it smells like corruption, looks like](#)

High-Speed Rail: If it smells like **corruption**, looks like **corruption**, and feels like **corruption**, what is it? ... Senator Dianne **Feinstein** of California, husband Richard Blum involved in organizations owning land through which the rail corridor passes.

[high-speedtraintalk.blogspot.com/2012/03/high-speed-rail-if-it-smells-like...](http://high-speedtraintalk.blogspot.com/2012/03/high-speed-rail-if-it-smells-like...)  
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## [Profiles in Corruption: Diane Feinstein - Buzz](#)

**Feinstein** is consumed by **corruption**. **Feinstein** is consumed by **corruption**. #**corruption** #dianefeinstein #milcon. Home; Politics; News; Sports; Entertainment; Gear, Gadgets & Guns; Videos; Obama Secretly Bailing Out Chicago.

[buzzpo.com/profiles-corruption-diane-feinstein/](http://buzzpo.com/profiles-corruption-diane-feinstein/)  
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## [The California Desert Protection Act and A Story of Political .](#)

Why are they almost all at least millionaires and why is that fact ignored by the media? For example; Dianne **Feinstein** and her ... As an example of **corruption** in the highest levels involving ... 4 Responses to THE CALIFORNIA DESERT PROTECTION ACT AND A STORY OF POLITICAL OPPORTUNISM. ...

[camegiejournal.com/2013/04/04/the-desert-protection-act-and-...](http://camegiejournal.com/2013/04/04/the-desert-protection-act-and-...)  
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## [Feinstein's husband wins CA State rail project.. | IGN Boards](#)

Boards > The Vault > Outpost > **Feinstein's** husband wins CA State rail project.. > ... I think the important part was " **Feinstein's** husband wins \$1b contract for state ... It is only really news if there is evidence of **corruption** or if people were not aware that they would potentially benefit ...

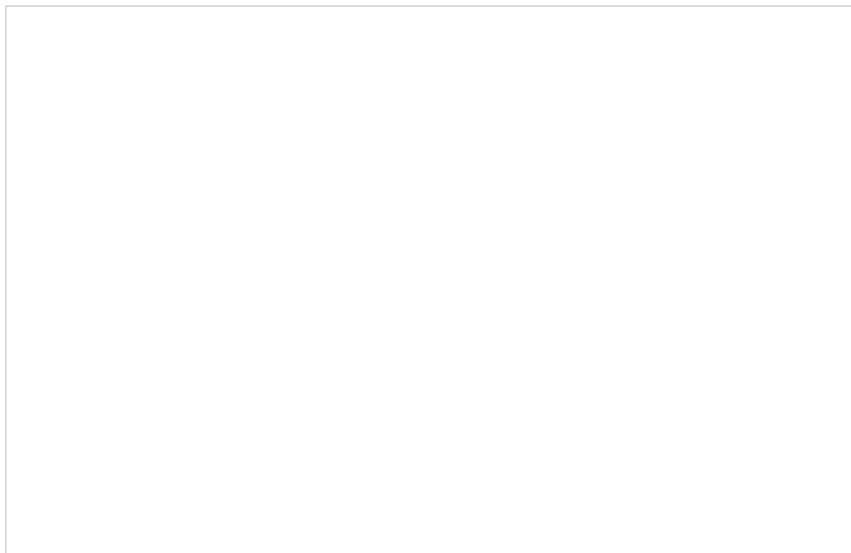
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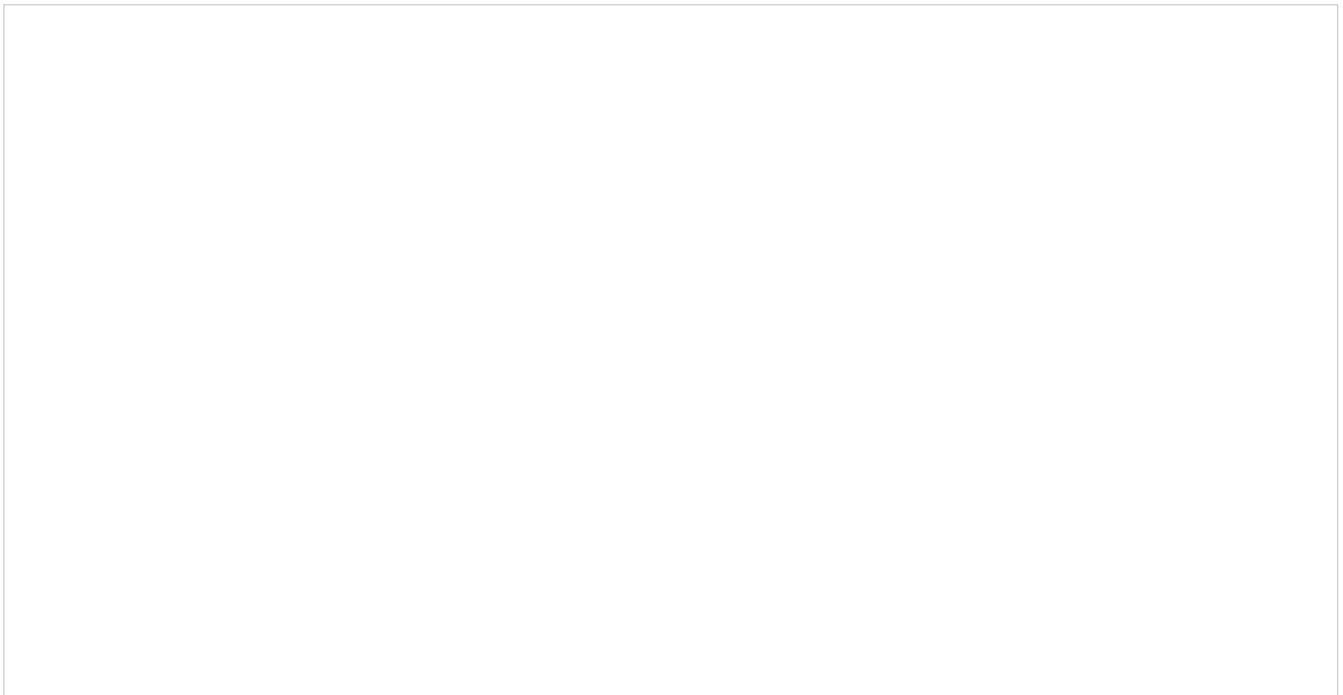
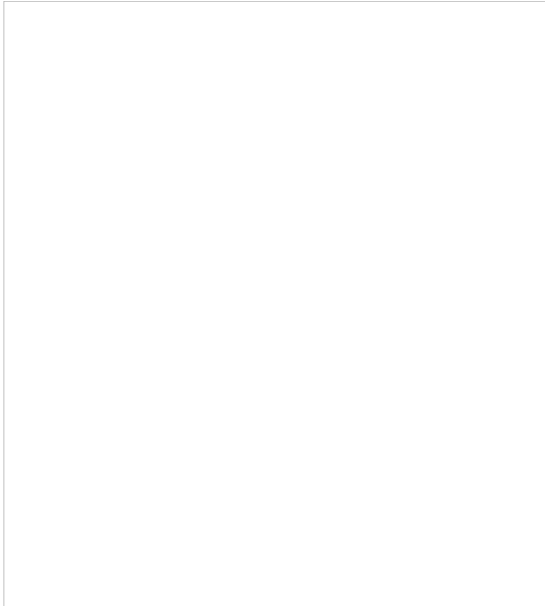


## [Feinstein Nepotism Bilking Citizens For Billions - The Shasta](#)

**Feinstein** Nepotism Bilking Citizens For Billions. ... Whether it is the billion dollar contract for California's High Speed Rail Project or the billion dollar commission that is expected from selling United States Post Offices no one ... The word is also synonymous with **corruption** and ...

[shastalantem.net/2015/01/feinstein-nepotism-bilking-citize...](http://shastalantem.net/2015/01/feinstein-nepotism-bilking-citize...)  
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## [Sen. Dianne Feinstein's husband wins CA rail contract | The .](#)

Sen. Dianne **Feinstein's** husband wins CA rail contract. News; Sen. Dianne **Feinstein's** husband wins CA rail contract. By Jason Stapleton - Mar 11, 2015. ... If I didn't witness the insanity and **corruption** in politics every day, ...

[jasonstapleton.com/sen-dianne-feinsteins-husband-wins-ca-rai...](#)

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## [Keeping It In the Family: Senator Feinstein's Husband Stands](#)

Senator Dianne **Feinstein** has long been accused of **corruption** and unethical behavior in Congress. From going after the Second Amendment to making tens of millions of dollars through her husband's [...]

[fracturedparadigm.com/2013/06/05/keeping-it-in-the-family-senat...](#)

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## [How Gun Grabber Feinstein Stole \\$100s Of Billions In Gold ...](#)

Diane **Feinstein** is Gun Grabber in Chief in the US Senate. We need to go on the offensive against her for her many acts of **corruption**. The alternative is unthinkable: We could go unarmed off that Fiscal Cliff into the Greatest Depression in 500 years with nationwide riots and martial law.

[vidrebel.wordpress.com/2012/12/31/how-gun-grabber-feinstein-stol...](#)

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## [Dianne Feinstein's husband gets billion dollar government .](#)

Home > **Corruption**, democRATs > Dianne **Feinstein's** husband gets billion dollar government rail contract Dianne **Feinstein's** husband gets billion dollar government rail contract. March 21, 2015 darthdilbert Leave a comment Go to comments.

[returnoftheconservatives.wordpress.com/2015/03/21/dianne-feinsteins-husband-gets...](#)

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## [Dianne Feinstein's Husband Wins Near-Billion Dollar .](#)

Dianne **Feinstein's** Husband Wins Near-Billion Dollar California 'High Speed Rail' Contract

[conservative50.com/blog/dianne-feinsteins-husband-wins-near-...](http://conservative50.com/blog/dianne-feinsteins-husband-wins-near-...)

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## [Feinstein's Corruption Ignored | Flopping Aces](#)

**Feinstein's Corruption** Ignored. By Curt 1 Comment Wed, May, 2nd, 2007 63 views. Well, at least SOMEONE is writing about the **corruption** charges against Diane **Feinstein**.

[floppingaces.net/2007/05/02/feinsteins-corruption-ignored/](http://floppingaces.net/2007/05/02/feinsteins-corruption-ignored/)

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## [Politics | Alaska Dispatch News](#)

Legislation authorizing the Alaska **Railroad** Corp. to issue up to \$37 million in bonds to help pay for a federally mandated safety system has been signed into law by Gov.

[adn.com/politics](http://adn.com/politics)

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## [Andrew Feinstein: The Arms Trade and Corruption | Open Society](#)

Open Society Fellow and former ANC Member of Parliament Andrew **Feinstein** spoke at the Open Society Foundations about his work investigating a corrupt weapons deal involving senior members of...

[opensocietyfoundations.org/videos/andrew-feinstein-arms-trade-and-co...](http://opensocietyfoundations.org/videos/andrew-feinstein-arms-trade-and-co...)

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## [Governor Brown, Senator Feinstein, Drugs and Corruption](#)

The depths of **Feinstein's corruption** and misgovernance are difficult for the average Californian voter to fathom. What distinguishes **Feinstein** is she has a voting record in Congress.

[iiipublishing.com/blog/2014/03/blog\\_03\\_31\\_2014.html](http://iiipublishing.com/blog/2014/03/blog_03_31_2014.html)

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