

CNN's *American Morning* today did a piece on SEIU lobbying on the healthcare bill. CNN's Carol Costello asked Stern about the ATR/AWF investigation; White House declines comment.

**CNN's CAROL COSTELLO, NARRATING:** "Critics aren't surprised by the union's access to lawmakers. But they are surprised by the union's access to President Obama, a president who has made a big deal about not working with lobbyists. Yet the White House visitor logs through September show union boss Andrew Stern visited the White House 22 times. But here's the catch, though He deregistered in 2007. **The Americans for Tax Reform and the Alliance for Worker Freedom say that's a violation of the Lobbying Disclosure Act.**"

**COSTELLO, face to face with ANDY STERN:** "They've petitioned the U.S. Attorney to investigate you for illegal lobbying activities. So how would you respond to that?"

**ANDY STERN, SEIU:** "We're going to send them a letter and tell them the truth, which is we've complied with the law. And we assume whenever the investigation is done it will be fine."

**COSTELLO:** "And they are going to come back at you and say 'oh my God', he's visited the White House 22 times. That's a lot of times."

**STERN:** "I don't care if I went there once, or I went there every single day – they would think it's too much. Because they have a different vision of America and the people I work with every day."

**COSTELLO:** "Now there is a rule that mandates those who spend 20 percent of their time lobbying for an issue must register as a lobbyist. This is the rule union boss Andrew Stern is accused of violating. The DC U.S. Attorney's Office told me they did receive a letter of complaint but because the matter was pending, they could not offer me any more information. **We did ask the White House to comment on whether Mr. Stern's visits swayed them to act on his behalf in any way. They declined to comment on the matter.**"