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SATURDAY, JULY 30, 2005

This Lame Duck Can Still Peck Awayby Michael in New York on [7/30/2005 04:40:00 AM](#)

Bush is supposed to be a lame duck...but **he's sure accomplishing a lot**. First he passed that bankruptcy bill that makes the average American debilitated by illness or the loss of a job that much more likely to be buried under debt.

And this week he scored a string of successes:

Bush passed CAFTA

Bush passed **a bill shielding gun manufacturers from lawsuits**, a prospect they've been salivating over for years.

Bush passed a **transportation bill filled with pork** to help the midterm elections

Bush passed an **energy bill filled with pork** that does little or nothing to help us lower our dependence on foreign oil, lets multinationals pollute the water and will trigger a massive wave of mergers in the utilities, with little understanding of what that means to the average consumer, though you can bet it means higher bills

Bush passed a **bill to increase funding for veterans' health care** -- Bush's top people at the VA insisted they wouldn't need more money (even though they failed to consider that WAR would cause a flood of injured soldiers) and of course they fell dramatically short, while still denying a problem. Congress stepped in and delivered the money. Bush deserves no credit but will surely tout this as another example of how he cares for the troops.

And **renewal of the Patriot Act** -- this is as close as Bush came to defeat, since he only got 98% of what he wanted here.

For a lame duck, Bush sure has been quacking a lot.



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Pretty Much - I think this encapsulates nicely our modern media environment.
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Ben Smith

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One small step...



The right-wing media, the voices of the GOP, in

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