



alex reinburg <areinburg@hotmail.com> on 04/09/2004 04:34:34 PM

To: politicalcommitteestatus@fec.gov
cc:

Subject: Political Committee Status Proposed Rules

726 Pollock Street
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April 9, 2004

Ms. Mai T. Dinh,
Acting Assistant General Counsel
Federal Election Commission
999 E Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20463

Dear Ms. Dinh,

I am writing to you in reference to the rulemaking currently under consideration concerning the extension of the definition of "political committees" to include nonconnected committees and organizations (as presented in the Federal Register/Vol.69, No.48/Thursday, March 11, 2004/Proposed Rules: Federal Election Committee: 11 CFR Parts 100, 102, 104, 106, and 114).

I urge the FEC to discard consideration of adopting these rules, and of any further consideration of the matter. Free speech and expression of political will have already been severely hampered by decisions in the courts, Congress, and by the FEC itself. There is no need to extend these limitations further. There is also no need to limit the activities of not-for-profit organizations further by imposing gag orders, which the proposed rulemaking effectively would do, on what and what may not be said by non-profit organizations, nor is there a need to limit the effectiveness of the excellent work carried out by not-for-profit organizations of all inclinations by placing severe restrictions upon the amounts that can be contributed toward them by individuals or foundations. This in fact, would be at cross-purposes with a governmental system which encourages not-for-profit organizations to carry out work which in many other nations is considered the responsibility of the government.

The United States of America were formed upon principles of freedom and responsibility. Let's not undermine this foundation further than it has already been with additional prohibitions and limitations upon perfectly acceptable and legal freedoms of action and speech.

The proposed rulemaking essentially amounts to nothing more than restriction of freedom of speech. Do not consider adopting it.

Sincerely yours,

James Alexander Mebane Reinburg

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