



Barbara Carr <scifi\_chick@juno.com> on 04/02/2004 10:02:00 AM

To: politicalcommitteestatus@fec.gov  
cc:

Subject: PROPOSED RULES

Please include the attached letter in your comment file for FEC rules.  
Barbara Carr



- FEC Comment.doc

April 2, 2004

Ms. Mai T. Dinh  
Acting Assistant General Counsel  
Federal Election Commission  
Washington, DC

Dear Ms. Dinh,

I am aghast at the proposed rules regarding nonprofit organizations and their right to make public comment about administration policies. These rules are an attack on the free speech rights of nonprofit organizations throughout the U.S. The FEC should not affect the right of individuals or organizations to dissent with policies they oppose. These rules go beyond the intent of the law, as courts have specifically considered and rejected, by treating nonprofit organizations as political committees, if they express views supporting or opposing any federal candidate. The McCain-Feingold campaign reform law applies only to political parties, not to independent groups. These rules would bankrupt political debate and could act in a chilling fashion to insulate public officials from substantive public criticism on their policy positions and actions. In my opinion, these rules are nothing short of fascism in a regulatory skirt.

Any nonprofit, regardless of its mission, views, or opinions, could be affected by these rules. In direct contradiction to IRS rules, charities who had the temerity to criticize, or possibly even question, federal policies could lose their tax-exempt status. This was never the intention of campaign finance reform.

I urge you to drop any consideration of regulating nonprofits, including independent political organizations (527s) in this misguided and inappropriate effort.

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