



james.flock@philips.com on 03/31/2004 05:53:12 PM

To: politicalcommitteestatus@fec.gov
cc:

Subject: non profit rule change

Dear Ms. Mai T. Dinh,
please read.

Jim Flock

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Dear Ms. Mai T. Dinh,

I am a late 20's RF engineer working for a medical device manufacturer. As a working man, it is impossible to follow everything that happens in Washington, so I rely on the internet and other services for news. I recieved an email from one such service describing changes to Non profit organizations that have the potential to take effect if a Republican organization effectively lobbies the FEC. The changes this email tells me, summarized, would in effect regulate non profits from participating in government. This would be done, by taking away non profits ability to speak out negatively to any political figure. The new rule would hit the non profits where it counts, the pocket book. By taking away the non profits ability to take in donations over a 5000 dollar cap, that would effectively eliminate the lobbying power, the ability to get it's message out, of a nonprofit org and make them a political entity, which in my opinion would discourage anyone or any group from forming in the future. While I don't agree with the power that lobbying groups always have on washington, if you remove them because of politically linked speech, you effectively take politics or the discussion of one step or rather a million steps more away from the common public, me, the working man. Politics isn't just for washington, it is for all. Right now, I work, but actions taken in washington effect me, not quickly, but slowly over time. I think we as a country need to have the feedback loop that non profits allow us to have as the workers and people that still are trying to live in this country.

Kind Regards

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