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FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

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April 2, 2004

FEC Acting Assistant General Counsel Mai Dinh
Federal Election Commission
999 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20463

FEC Acting Assistant General Counsel Dinh:

I strongly urge all commissioners to reject the proposed rules on Political Committee Status (being considered under Notice 2004-6).

I have worked for nonprofit organizations for all of my career, and I am writing to express my deep concern about proposed rules that would severely limit the ability of nonprofits to be heard in the political process.

Free political speech is already imperiled in our country. These rules would not only further inhibit free speech, they would put crippling financial and administrative burdens on nonprofits such that many will be unable to do their work of educating the public and encouraging civic participation.

I do not want to live in a country where only big money can have a meaningful public voice.

I implore you to vote against these rules.

Respectfully yours,



Eric Helmuth