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FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
2004 APR -7 A 10:36

April 2, 2004

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

Re: Political Committee Status (notice 2004-6) - First Amendment Issues

FEC Acting Assistant General Counsel Dinh:

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

Nonprofit organizations serve a bedrock role in our democracy, educating the public, promoting debate, encouraging civic participation and much more. The proposed rules threaten the fundamental activities on which almost all nonprofits rely to carry out these vital functions. Furthermore, the FEC does not have the authority to consider these drastic limits on free speech, and no case has yet been made for imposing these limits.

I strongly believe that the proposed rules would only hinder Americans' efforts to be heard in our political process, no matter what their individual viewpoints. Please vote against these rules.

Sincerely,



Grace S. Sparks