

~~Ms. Mai T. Dinh, Acting Assistant General Counsel~~

cc: Mr. J. Duane Pugh Jr., Senior Attorney  
cc: Mr. Daniel E. Pollner Attorney  
999 E Street, NW.  
Washington, DC 20463

2011-05-15  
A 9:59  
FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20543

Re: FEC SEEKS COMMENT ON PROPOSED RULES REGARDING POLITICAL COMMITTEE STATUS

Ms. Dinh,

**The Bill of Rights, Amendment 1: Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.**

It is clear that people have the right to assemble, pool our resources and espouse our political beliefs in any way we choose. I am a member of numerous organizations, political, environmental, professional and others. Each of these groups are effected by policies made in Washington and I have the right to have my voice heard, in concert with my fellow members of these groups. What you propose is a blatant attempt to stifle public discourse. Shame on you.

The people have the right to speak, we have the right to assemble and we have the right to assemble for the purpose of speaking. We have the right to say which political candidates we agree with and which we do not. FEC should keep out of the way.

I oppose your rule change. I oppose your attempt to prevent the organizations I belong to from engaging in public debate, including the endorsement or denunciation of candidates.

Matthew Sullivan  
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