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April 1, 2004

A 10:45

Mr. Anthony T. Buckley  
Staff Attorney  
Federal Election Commission  
999 E Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20463

Dear Mr. Buckley:

Many of us are aghast that the FEC is considering issuing new rules changing the definition of "Political Committees" to make a sweeping inclusion of groups never so intended. I strongly oppose the issuance of such new rules by the FEC!

This inclusion, suggested by the Republican National Committee, is seen as purely politically motivated to, in effect, squelch political discussion of President Bush and candidates running for office. The FEC has no legal right to treat non-profit public interest groups as political committees, even if they criticize or comment on candidates running for office. Congress specifically considered and rejected such regulation, as it would be a serious threat to the fundamental checks and balances of our system.

Yours truly,



Ruth A. Carter