



Greg Barbovinac <ned@ccul.org> on 12/03/2001 04:41:58 PM

To: internetprn@FEC
cc: "kkincer@cuna.com" <kkincer@cuna.com>
Subject: Internet and Federal Elections (Notice 2001-14) Comment Letter

December 3, 2001

Ms. Rosemary C. Smith
Assistant General Counsel
Federal Election Commission
999 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20463

Re: Internet and Federal Elections (Notice 2001-14)

Dear Ms. Smith:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Commission's proposed rules relating to the Internet and Federal elections. The California and Nevada Credit Union Leagues (the League) support the proposal as written.

Efforts by individuals to support candidates for federal office using their personal computer resources should not be considered in-kind contributions. Adoption of this rule will encourage more citizens to take part within the election process.

Dealing with hyperlinks from an organization to a website of a candidate or political party, the League strongly encourages the Commission to clearly state that simply providing a link on its website (without compensation involved) to a candidate and/or political party is permitted by the changes to 11 C.F.R. 117.2 and will not be considered a contribution. The organization should be able to have a site on its web page with links to the official site of the candidate it supports under the banner, "For more information about these candidates."

Allowing media releases that announce the support of a candidate for federal office to be made available on its public web site is a good change. We ask the Commission to clarify that "a statement of reasons" for support can be achieved through a quote from any official or employee of the corporation. For example, such a quote could be:

"We are supporting Rep. George Washington in his bid for reelection to the House of Representatives because of his long-time demonstrated support of issues important to widget makers and sellers and his efforts to reduce statutory and regulatory burdens on the manufacture and export of widgets," said the Corporation's federal lobbyist Thomas Jefferson."

Such a quote would be more effective in a media release than using the two issues described rather than a chart or list of the issues.

If the League can be of any assistance in this matter, please feel free to call me at 800.472.1702, extension 3229.

Sincerely,

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