

NEWS RELEASE  
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FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
1325 K Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20463

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ADDITIONAL REQUESTS FOR  
ADVISORY OPINIONS PUBLISHED

WASHINGTON - JULY 23 - The Federal Election Commission will be deciding questions concerning the reporting requirements of unauthorized and inactive political committees.

The Commission today agreed to publish numerous "Requests for Advisory Opinions" (AOR's) which will be decided after a ten-day period for public comment following the official Federal Register publication date next week.

Questions posed by the Commission today include the following:

(1) UNAUTHORIZED COMMITTEES. The law requires that committees formed on behalf of a candidate, but not authorized by that candidate, must print a disclaimer notice on its literature concerning the lack of authorization. Is that disclaimer requirement "the only effect" of such lack of authorization? (AOR #19, requested by U.S. Sen. Bob Packwood (R-Ore.)

If a candidate authorized a committee to raise contributions, but not to incur expenditures, are incidental expenditures of that committee treated as independent expenditures, or attributed to the candidate? (AOR #22, part B) requested by U.S. Sen. Strom Thurmond, (R-S.C.)

(2) INACTIVE COMMITTEES. Must "inactive" committees continue to file financial disclosure reports if (a) they have no expectation of raising any money to pay off an outstanding debt? (requested by the Muskie Illinois Campaign), or (b) only have an outstanding debt involved in a legal dispute, (requested by the Senator Ellender Campaign Committee.) (AOR #18)

(3) POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEES. Whether activities described by two organizations are permissible: voter registration and education activities of the Committee for Thorough Agricultural Political Education, (AOR #20), and the "Responsible Citizenship Program" of the Sun Oil Company (AOR #23)

(4) MISC. COMMITTEE QUESTIONS. Whether corporate donations can legally be used by a local party committee for its operational expenses, when that party committee also maintains a separate account for its reportable, federal contributions, (AOR #21, requested by the Republican Central Committee of San Diego County), and whether a candidate's principal campaign committee, when it receives and then endorses a check over to a state party committee, must report that transaction as a receipt and expenditure. (AOR #22, part B, requested by U.S. Sen. Strom Thurmond, (R-S.C.)