

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
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FEC ISSUES NEW HAMPSHIRE  
SENATE RACE GUIDELINE

WASHINGTON - AUGUST 20 - The Federal Election Commission said today that all limits of the new campaign finance act would apply to the special September 16 Senate election in New Hampshire.

In issuing an "Interim Guideline" the FEC said the election would be treated as a "General Election" for determining spending limits, and set July 30, 1975, the day the Senate declared the New Hampshire seat officially vacant, as the "cutoff date" for applying contribution and expenditure limits.

The Commission said the following rules would apply to financial reporting for the special New Hampshire election:

- - - CONTRIBUTION AND EXPENDITURE LIMITS: "All contributions received or expenditures incurred on or subsequent to July 30, 1975, ... shall be attributed to the September 16 Special Election. All contributions received or made or expenditures made or incurred prior to July 30, 1975, will be considered as made with respect to the 1974 election, to which the limitations of (the 1974 act) did not apply," the Commission said. However, it said that any funds on hand by the candidates, or their committees, on July 30, could be utilized for the September 16 election to the extent that the contributions making up those funds were within the contribution limits of the law. Any funds on hand made up of contributions exceeding the contribution limits could be applied to the 1974 race, for which no contribution limits applied.

- - - REPORTING DATES: The pre-election report called for by the Act must be filed with the Commission by September 6. The post-election report must be filed by October 16. Filing of the October 16 report by candidates and committees will "satisfy" the requirements for filing of the regular quarterly report on October 10.

- - - REGISTRATION: Candidates for the New Hampshire Senate seat must file a "Statement of Candidacy" with the Commission within 5 Days after official publication in the Federal Register of the guideline approved today. Candidates must also designate a "principal campaign committee" and at least one national or state bank to serve as a "campaign depository" for funds.

- - - NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE PARTY COMMITTEES: The Commission said any state party committee that intends to raise or spend more than \$1,000 on behalf of a candidate in the special election must set up "a separate segregated federal campaign account" and file reports and financial statements with the Election Commission. "Such segregated federal account may not receive transfers from another account established by a state committee or subordinate committee of a state committee," unless such separate state or subordinate committee is itself a separate segregated federal campaign account," the Commission said.

- - - PRIOR DEBTS: The Commission ruled that any debts remaining outstanding from the 1974 Senate election, or the Senate recount, would be subject to earlier rules promulgated by the FEC with respect to reporting of debts from prior-year campaigns.

- - - PUBLIC AVAILABILITY: Copies of all financial disclosure reports for the Senate election will be available at the FEC and also at the office of the Secretary of the Senate.