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FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

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FEC RULES ON

1974 CAMPAIGN DEBT

WASHINGTON - OCTOBER 30 - Funds raised to defray a 1974 Senatorial campaign debt, including those funds solicited for such purpose subsequent to the 1974 election, may be used to repay the candidate for loans made by him to his campaign fund, the Federal Election Commission ruled today.

However, the Commission noted that such a loan is an "expenditure" for statutory purposes, and the candidate therefore is subject to the senatorial personal expenditure limitation of \$35,000.

In Advisory Opinion 1975-57, requested by the John L. Grady Campaign Fund, Belle Glade, Florida, the Commission stated that; "While the candidate for Senate may lend his campaign more than \$35,000 aggregated during an election, at no time may the outstanding balance, plus other expenditures from 'immediate family' funds, exceed \$35,000."

In other action today, the Commission issued the following Advisory Opinions:

-----Book Royalties (AO #77): Royalties from the publication of a book by a Congressman are not limited by the law's restriction on acceptance of honoraria. (Advisory Opinion 1975-77, requested by Rep. John J. Rhodes (R, Ariz.-1).

-----Congressional Office Equipment (AO #51): A Congressman's office account may be used to purchase a computer terminal for use in handling constituent mail; the law states that such accounts "may be used...to defray any ordinary and necessary expenses incurred by (a Congressman) in connection with his duties as a holder of Federal office." (Advisory Opinion 1975-51, requested by Rep. James L. Oberstar (D, Minn.-8).