

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

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ELECTION COMMISSION CERTIFIES CANDIDATES

WASHINGTON - DECEMBER 23 - The Federal Election Commission today made initial certifications to the Treasury Department of Federal matching funds for Presidential Primary candidates.

The candidates, and the amounts certified today, are as follows:

Senator Birch Bayh, (\$100,000.00)
Senator Lloyd M. Bentsen, Jr., (\$492,029.84)
James E. Carter, (\$100,000.00)
President Gerald R. Ford, (\$374,422.10)
Fred R. Harris, (\$100,000.00)
Senator Henry M. Jackson, (\$100,000.00)
Ronald Reagan, (\$100,000.00)
Terry Sanford, (\$214,050.27)
Congressman Morris K. Udall, (\$100,000.00)
Governor George C. Wallace, (\$100,000.00)

The Treasury Department may not make any payments until January 1, 1976.

Bentsen, Ford, and Sanford were established by the Commission last week to be eligible for federal matching funds. Each had presented to the Commission, "in good order" their full matching fund entitlements from January 1 through October 31, 1975.

Eligibility was established by the Commission today for Bayh, Carter, Harris, Jackson, Reagan, Udall, and Wallace. The first 10-month matching fund entitlements for these seven candidates are not yet complete, and they were certified to receive the initial \$100,000 "threshold" amount which had been verified by the Commission to establish eligibility.

The certifications were signed by Commission Chairman Thomas B. Curtis, and vice-Chairman, Neil Staebler, and hand-delivered to the Treasury Department.

Under the law, candidates must take two basic steps to qualify for federal matching funds:

- (1) meet the "20-state requirement" of obtaining matchable contributions (\$250 or less from an individual), of \$5,000 from residents of 20 separate states, and,
- (2) submit a statement in writing to the FEC certifying that they will meet the requirements of the primary matching Act, such as record-keeping, submission to audits, and adherence to spending limits.

In January, the Commission will ask the candidates for their additional matchable contributions, and will begin procedures of receiving additional matching requests on a twice-monthly basis, on the first and third Mondays of each month, and will certify eligible contributions within fifteen days after their submission.