

NEWS FROM...

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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FEC DETERMINATION OF "INACTIVE" CANDIDATES

WASHINGTON - June 23 - The Federal Election Commission today made a preliminary determination that 9 presidential candidates are no longer eligible to receive federal primary matching funds, except to pay off prior campaign debts.

All candidates will be given an opportunity to challenge the FEC's findings and to offer evidence that they are still active candidates.

The Commission preliminarily determined that 8 candidates are "inactive" based on specific acknowledgements to the Commission by the candidate of inactive status or public statements by the candidate relating to candidacy status, such as endorsements of another candidate, or release of delegates.

These 8 candidates, the date of "inactivity" being considered by the FEC, and the FEC reasons, follow:

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| <u>-BAYH</u> | -(May 11, 1976) | -Letter to FEC |
| <u>-CHURCH</u> | -(June 14, 1976) | -Endorsement of another candidate |
| <u>-HARRIS</u> | -(May 11, 1976) | -Letter to FEC |
| <u>-JACKSON</u> | -(June 16, 1976) | -Release of delegates |
| <u>-SHAPP</u> | -(May 11, 1976) | -Telephone conversation between FEC & campaign staff |
| <u>-SHRIVER</u> | -(May 11, 1976) | -Letter to FEC |
| <u>-UDALL</u> | -(June 14, 1976) | -Public statements of no longer seeking delegates and allowing other candidates to seek support of his delegates |
| <u>-WALLACE</u> | -(June 9, 1976) | -Endorsement of another candidate. |

One candidate (McCormack), will be ineligible for matching funds effective June 24, except to pay off prior campaign debts, because of the provision of the law requiring such ineligibility 30 days after the second of two successive primaries in which the candidate entered and did not receive 10% of the vote. The Commission determined that McCormack did not receive 10% of the vote in primaries on May 18 and May 25.

In all cases, "inactive" candidates may receive matching payments to pay campaign debts incurred prior to the inactive date. The FEC will use the following formula to compute such "prior debt" payments: The amount of net obligations owed by the campaign on the inactive date, less the following: (1) obligations owed to the campaign as of that date, (2) cash on hand as of that date, and (3) any matching payments certified by the Commission since that date.

Under the 1976 Amendments which went into effect on May 11, 1976, an individual is no longer a "candidate" fully eligible for presidential primary matching funds when he or she "has ceased actively to seek election...in more than one state."