

NEWS FROM...

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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FEC REGULATIONS TAKE EFFECT TODAY

WASHINGTON - April 13 - The Federal Election Commission today officially promulgated comprehensive regulations implementing the Federal Election Campaign Act.

The notice of promulgation appears in today's Federal Register. Last week, the Commission voted 6-0 to prescribe the regulations. Today's publication date is the formal effective date of the regulations.

The regulations were submitted to Congress on Tuesday, January 11, 1977. Under the Act, the Commission must submit proposed regulations to the Congress, which has 30 legislative days to review them. If neither the House nor the Senate disapproves the regulations during this period of time, the Commission may officially prescribe and promulgate them. The 30th legislative day, interpreted as a day when both the House and Senate are in session, occurred on Tuesday, March 29. No provision was disapproved by Congress.

Draft regulations were originally published for public comment in the Federal Register on May 26, 1976, five days after the Commission was reconstituted in accordance with the Supreme Court's decision in Buckley v. Valeo. Hearings were held on the proposed regulations in June and July. Based on these hearings and written comments, the regulations were revised and transmitted to Congress on August 3, 1976.

Because Congress adjourned October 1, 1976, before the necessary 30 legislative days had expired, the Commission could not vote to officially prescribe regulations in 1976, and the regulations were therefore resubmitted after the opening of the 94th Congress in January.

The text of the regulations promulgated today is found in the August 25, 1976 Federal Register, pages 35932-35976, with the text of three minor changes appearing in today's Federal Register notice.