

NEWS FROM...

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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WASHINGTON - June 28, 1979 - The second federally-funded Presidential election campaign was officially kicked off today with the first certification of U.S. Treasury money by the Federal Election Commission.

The Commission certified \$750,000 to the convention committee of the Republican National Committee for the 1980 Convention to be held in Detroit, Michigan.

Under the Federal Election Campaign Act, both major parties are entitled to receive up to \$2 million--plus an additional amount to cover the rise in the Consumer Price Index--to pay for convention expenses. This could mean that each major party would be able to spend slightly more than \$2.6 million for its nominating conventions.

July 1st of the year preceding the election year is the first date on which either national party may receive federal funds. The RNC submitted its application for funds on June 1.

The RNC will be required to file quarterly reports on its convention activities. The host committee for the convention, as well as each state and local government agency and municipal corporation which receives funds or makes disbursements for the nominating convention will be required to file full reports 60 days after the close of the convention. In addition, the FEC is mandated by law to conduct an audit of all convention receipts and disbursements.

The FEC is currently reviewing its existing regulations governing the conduct of national nominating conventions, and plans to submit proposed changes to those regulations to Congress in the near future. The regulations address all facets of convention operation, including participation by state and local government agencies, host committees for the conventions, and allowable discounts provided by local business concerns.