FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

Press Office
1325 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20463
Phone: Local 523-4065 Toll Free 800-424-9530

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JUNE 8, 1982

CONTACT: FRED EILAND
SHARON SNYDER

WASHINGTON -- Eighteen possible changes in federal election laws have been recommended by the Federal Election Commission for consideration by the U. S. Senate and House of Representatives.

These legislative recommendations, required annually by statute, fall into 10 general categories, and are designed "to generate discussion on broad topics that seemed to pose problems for political committees in their effort to comply with the law; for the public, in its effort to utilize campaign finance information which is disclosed; or for the Commission in its administration of the law."

In a letter to the President, Speaker of the House and President of the Senate, FEC Chairman Frank P. Reiche said, "a primary value of the recommendations is an opportunity to acquaint Congress and the public with difficulties that have been encountered. The Commission was less concerned about finding perfect solutions than with defining problems and identifying possible solutions."

Included in the recommendations are the following:

Amend the Federal Election Campaign Act to prevent a proliferation of "draft" committees, and to reaffirm Congressional intent that draft committees are "political committees" subject to the Act's provisions;

Circumscribe the use of volunteer professional services when they are donated solely for fundraising purposes rather than for actual campaigning;

Clarify the Commission's statutory role in determination of insolvency and liquidation of insolvent political committees;

Establish the Commission as the sole point of entry for all disclosure documents filed by Federal candidates and political committees;

Provide a separate spending limit for local party committees, especially in Presidential elections;

-more-

Remove the one-year limit on corporate approval of solicitations by trade associations;

Modify statutory language relating to "reason to believe" findings in order to reduce the confusion sometimes experienced by respondents, the press and the public;

Eliminate state-by-state spending limits for publicly financed presidential primary candidates;

Repeal the 20 percent fundraising limitation for publicly financed presidential primary campaigns and add an equivalent amount ($2 million plus inflation factor) to the overall expenditure limitation ($10 million plus inflation factor);

Examine the application of the $1,000 per election contribution limitation to immediate family members of candidates;

Define the extent to which foreign nationals may participate, if at all, in connection with elections to any political office; and

Add a provision to the Federal Election Campaign Act prohibiting persons from fraudulently misrepresenting themselves as representatives of candidates or political parties for the purpose of soliciting contributions which are never forwarded to or used by or on behalf of the candidate or party.