

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
SEPTEMBER 19, 1985

CONTACT: FRED EILAND
SHARON SNYDER
DEBORAH STUTZ

MICHIGAN JOINS FEC COMPUTER PROGRAM

WASHINGTON -- Michigan will be the next state to have computer access to Federal Election Commission campaign finance information.

On Monday, September 23, at 10 a.m., Michigan Secretary of State Richard Austin will host a press conference to announce the new system. Joining Mr. Austin will be FEC Chairman John Warren McGarry and FEC staff, who will provide background information on the program which currently involves eight other states. Those states are Alabama, California, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Washington.

A demonstration of the system will be held for reporters, representatives of political committees, party officials, and others interested or involved in Federal elections.

The cooperative effort between the FEC and the Michigan Department of State is part of a continuing attempt to broaden public access to Federal campaign finance information, which is centralized in the Washington, D.C. Public Records Office of the Federal Election Commission.

Among computer data available to state offices are: 1) indexes providing identifying information on all registered political committees, such as their sponsoring organization, frequency of filing reports, and qualifying status for making contributions; 2) indexes showing total receipts and disbursements for PAC's and for candidates' committees; 3) listings of all contributions made by PAC's to federal candidates.

The press conference will be held on the fourth floor of the Mutual Building, 208 North Capitol, Lansing, Michigan.