

# FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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## FEC SEEKS COMMENTS ON DELEGATE SELECTION RULES; SETS PUBLIC HEARING

WASHINGTON--Public written comments are being asked for by the Federal Election Commission on proposed changes in its rules governing the selection of delegates to presidential nominating conventions. A public hearing on this subject has been set for Wednesday, April 22.

The FEC is reviewing its regulations governing the delegate selection process to determine how best to balance the interests involved in regulating the activities of delegates, delegate committees, presidential candidate committees and groups active in the delegate selection process. Proposed revisions include clarifying regulations which apply to contributions to and expenditures by delegates and delegate committees, and also concern several issues that have arisen concerning the delegate selection rules.

One area of concern involves possible affiliation between a delegate committee and a presidential candidate's principal campaign committee. Another involves regulation of activities conducted in relation to the delegate selection process by political action committees established by individuals who later become presidential candidates.

Written comments must be received on or before April 3. Persons wishing to testify should so state in their written comments addressed to Ms. Susan E. Propper, Assistant General Counsel, FEC. 999 E Street, NW, Washington, DC 20463.

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In outlining the agency's projected activities, Commissioner Josefiak said, "in addition to the normal, and historically increasing, workload involved in the biennial Congressional elections, Presidential campaigns generate substantial amounts of work for every division of the FEC. While many of the audit and enforcement issues will not be resolved until Fiscal Year 1989, the certification, public funding and disclosure workload falls mostly in the budget year now being considered."

Making reference to sizable and unexpected "Gramm-Rudman", and other budget cuts the past year that resulted in a decision to forego computerization of some data, the FEC advised the House committee that it already has taken steps to "recapture" individual contributions of \$500 or more to candidate committees. This has been made possible through administrative savings in fiscal year 1987 from unanticipated rent savings, cost-cutting in computer contracts with outside providers and lower staffing levels resulting from the 1986 hiring freeze, Commissioner Josefiak said.

The proposed 1988 budget would permit the agency to complete its effort to computerize the 1986 data. "We look forward to restoring our computerized research services to their full and complete level of usefulness as we enter the new political season", he said.