

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

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FEC SUBMITS LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONGRESS

WASHINGTON -- Thirty-eight recommendations to Congress for possible legislative changes in federal election laws have been submitted by the Federal Election Commission. Of these, three are new, seven are modifications of recommendations submitted previously and the remainder are past recommendations.

The new recommendations are to:

1. Clarify that public financing statutes prohibit the making of contributions (direct or in-kind) to Presidential candidates who receive public funds in the general election;
2. Consider amending the definition of principal campaign committee to clarify whether such entities may make independent expenditures on behalf of other principal campaign committees;
3. Consider amending the law to require that contributions solicited by an unauthorized committee be made payable to the name of that committee.

Of the amended recommendations, four are in connection with public funding laws governing Presidential elections. Of the three remaining, one involves political committees that engage in activities that influence both federal and nonfederal elections; another suggests Congress may wish to amend a provision of the law prohibiting corporate and labor spending in connection with federal elections in light of a Supreme Court decision involving the Massachusetts Citizens for Life, Inc.; and the last recommends that Congress examine the application of contribution limitations to immediate family members.

Annual submissions of legislative recommendations to the Congress by the FEC are mandated by the Federal Election Campaign Act. The Commission's recommendations are based on its experience in administering and enforcing federal election laws.

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