

ADVISORY OPINION 1975-35

Officials of Political Committees

This advisory opinion is rendered under 2 U.S.C. § 437(f) in response to a request for an advisory opinion submitted by the Republican Congressional Boosters Club. The request was made public by the Commission and published in the Federal Register on August 20, 1975 (40 FR 36534). Interested parties were given an opportunity to submit comments to the request.

The question specifically asked was whether or not "a person serving as a member of the executive committee of the official committee of one fund-raising national committee can serve as chairman or a member of another national fund-raising committee."

The Commission is of the opinion that the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, would not preclude a person from serving in an official capacity with more than one political committee raising funds for Federal purposes. The Commission points out, however, that the contribution limitations in 18 U.S.C. § 608(b)(1) and (2) and the expenditure limitation in 18 U.S.C. 608(e) apply to the committees which are in fact, truly independent committees. Political committees which have the same person or persons serving as key officials or personnel may be compromising the independence of each committee. In a given case, such interconnection may lead to the legal conclusion that, for the purpose of applying the limitations, the several committees are in fact only one committee.

This advisory opinion is issued on an interim basis only pending promulgation by the Commission of rules and regulations or policy statements of general applicability.

Date September 18, 1975

_____(signed)_____
Thomas B. Curtis
Chairman for the
Federal Election Commission