

## ADVISORY OPINION 1975-59

### Acceptance of Corporate Contributions for Non-Federal Purposes

This advisory opinion is issued under 2 U.S.C. SS 437f in response to a request from the Rhode Island Republican State Central Committee (hereinafter Central Committee). This request was published on September 5, 1975, in the Federal Register at 40 FR 40671. Interested persons were invited to submit written comments. None were received.

The Central Committee asks whether it may accept corporate contributions (which are allowed under State law) in connection with a fundraising event and deposit such contributions in a separate bank account. These corporate contributions would be used for State candidates only.

The Commission concludes that the Central Committee may accept corporate contributions (permitted under State law), deposit them in a separate segregated bank account, and use them exclusively for State candidates, but not for Federal candidates or committees.

Except in the case of a national bank or any corporation organized by authority of any law of Congress, 18 U.S.C. §610 does not prohibit the making of direct corporate contributions to or expenditures on behalf of State and local candidates. This is a matter governed by State law. If these corporate funds are not used by the Republican State Central Committee in a manner which might benefit Federal candidates, and would only be contributed to or expended directly on behalf of the State and local candidates, there would be no violation of 18 U.S.C. §610.

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

Date: November 13, 1975

(signed) \_\_\_\_\_  
Neil Staebler  
Vice Chairman for the  
Federal Election Commission