



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20463

August 12, 1976

AO 1976-41

Honorable Ted Stevens
Chairman, National Republican Senatorial Committee
Room 445, Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Stevens:

This is in response to your letter of June 18, 1976, requesting confirmation that a political action committee may transfer \$15,000 to the National Republican Senatorial Committee ("the Committee"). Your letter and a subsequent communication with your staff indicated that an unsuccessful senatorial candidate was instrumental in forming and directing the functions of the political action committee, but that the funds of the committee do not consist of any excess campaign funds of the unsuccessful candidate. You further indicated that the political action committee has met the statutory requirements of qualifying as a "multi-candidate political committee" (2 U.S.C. §441a(a)(4)).

As you are aware, 2 U.S.C. SS 441a(a)(2) provides that:

No multicandidate political committee shall make contributions . . . to the political committees established and maintained by a national political party, which are not the authorized committees of any candidates, in any calendar year, which, in the aggregate, exceed \$15,000.

Furthermore, as the Conference Report of the Federal Election Campaign Act Amendments of 1976 makes clear, the Senate and House Campaign Committees are included in the term "political committee established or maintained by a national political party." H.R. Conf. Rep. No. 94-1057, 94th Cong., 2d Sess. 58 (1976).

In view of the foregoing, and based upon the assumption that the political action committee you referred to has not otherwise contributed to the Committee, the Commission concludes that the transfer of \$15,000 is not in violation of 2 U.S.C. §441a(2)(B).

This response constitutes an advisory opinion concerning the application of a general rule of law stated in the Act to the specific factual situation set forth in your request. See 2 U.S.C. §437f.

Sincerely yours,

Vernon W. Thomson
Chairman for the
Federal Election Commission