McCrery
For Congress

P.O. Box 4650 • Shreveport, LA 71134-0650

November 1, 1995

Mr. Bradley N. Litchfield
Federal Election Commission
999 E Street, NW, Suite 657
Washington, D.C. 20463

AOR 1995-42

Dear Mr. Litchfield:

I am writing to request an advisory opinion from the Federal Election Commission on the proposed use of campaign funds to pay for child care expenses for our child when my wife and I are attending campaign-related events.

My wife Johnette often accompanies me to campaign-related events such as receptions, cocktail parties, press conferences, finance meetings, etc. which are inappropriate for our 20 month old son. Johnette is an integral part of my campaign team, and her presence at these events is vital.

Although we have taken our son to numerous campaign events, there are times we must attend functions inappropriate for a child his age. In addition, we have a large district that stretches across north Louisiana, and it requires us to travel extensively at various times often including an overnight stay. Occasionally, child care is necessary in these instances as well.

This expense is directly related to my candidacy and would not exist irrespective of my and my wife's campaign responsibilities.

The newly revised FEC regulations governing the personal use of campaign funds do not specifically address child care expenses. I am aware of the AOR 1995-20 decision regarding travel expenses, but I would like an opinion specifically regarding child care. In order to ensure that I am in compliance with the rules, I would like the FEC to advise if it is permissible to use campaign funds to pay for this campaign-related expense.

Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to hearing from you on this matter. Please address all correspondence to Post Office Box 4650, Shreveport, Louisiana 71134. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact a member of my campaign staff, Ms. Alison Vick, by phoning (318)797-8356.

Sincerely,
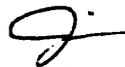
Jim McCrery
Member of Congress