



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

May 21, 2001

**BY FACSIMILE AND U.S. MAIL**

Benjamin L. Ginsberg, Esq.  
William J. McGinley, Esq.  
Patton Boggs, L.L.P.  
2550 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20037

RE: MURs 4568, 4633, 4634 and 4736  
Sam Brownback for US Senate Committee  
and Alan Groesbeck, as treasurer

Dear Messrs. Ginsberg and McGinley:

This is to advise you that on May 17, 2001, the Federal Election Commission found probable cause to believe that your clients, Sam Brownback for US Senate Committee and Alan Groesbeck, as treasurer, ("the Brownback Committee") violated 2 U.S.C. § 441a(f), a provision of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, by accepting \$19,000 in excessive contributions that John and Ruth Stauffer sent to American Free Enterprise PAC, Citizens Allied for Free Enterprise, Citizens United Political Victory Fund, Free Congress PAC and Madison Project, Inc. Fund with the knowledge that these PACs would contribute a substantial amount of those funds to the Brownback Committee. 11 C.F.R. § 110.1(h).

After considering the circumstances of this matter, however, the Commission also determined to take no action against the Brownback Committee at this time, but hereby reminds the Brownback Committee of its obligations under 11 C.F.R. 103.3(b)(3). Once the Brownback Committee complies with its obligations under the Act and its implementing regulations, and provides evidence of the steps it has taken, it is this Office's intention to recommend that the Commission take no further action and close its file as to these Respondents.

The Commission reminds the Brownback Committee that accepting excessive contributions is a violation of the Act, and it should take steps to ensure that this activity does not occur in the future. You are advised that the confidentiality provisions of 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(12)(A) still apply with respect to all respondents still involved in this matter. The Commission will notify you when the entire file has been closed. If you have any questions, please contact Mark Shonkwiler, the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Lois G. Lerner".

Lois G. Lerner  
Acting General Counsel

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