

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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FEC RELEASES INDEXES ON COMMUNICATION COSTS AND PARTY FINANCES

WASHINGTON - April 27 - An index released today by the Federal Election Commission reveals that corporations, labor and membership organizations, and trade associations reported spending \$146,899 on "internal communications" for or against 416 Federal candidates in 1976.

In a separate index also released today, the Commission revealed that both the National Democratic and Republican parties reported receiving the bulk of their contributions in amounts under \$100 during the 1976 elections.

Of the total communication costs reported, \$2,014,326 (93.8%) was spent by labor organizations, with 66 filers. Corporations spent \$31,045 (1.4%) with 4 filers. One membership organization reported spending \$101,528 (4.77%).

The forty page National Party index, compiled from reports filed with the FEC from January 1975 through December 31, 1976, constitutes an analysis of the total income and costs of the major national parties for the 1976 federal election campaign. This includes reports by the National Party Committees, affiliates, convention committees, Congressional committees and party-identified committees.

During the period covered by the National Party index, the total receipts (adjusted) of the Republican Party committees were \$45,705,886 and the total expenditures (adjusted) were \$40,076,180.

The total receipts (adjusted) of the Democratic Party committees were 19,739,851 and the total expenditures (adjusted) were \$19,363,177. These figures have been adjusted by the index to reflect interparty transfers, repaid loans and in-kind and earmarked contributions. The figures as reported were \$77,669,544 in receipts and \$73,061,075 in expenditures for the Republican Party and \$32,236,060 in receipts and \$31,990,515 in expenditures for the Democratic Party.

Further Details on the Two New Indexes follow:

I. Communications Costs Index: The index, Communications Costs by Corporations, Labor Organizations, Membership Organizations and Trade Associations, 144 pages long, was compiled utilizing the FEC computer system from reports filed with the Commission covering the period from May 11, 1976, through the present, relating to 1976 elections.

Under the 1976 amendments to the Federal Campaign finance law, corporations, labor and membership organizations and trade associations must report to the FEC the cost of partisan

communications, to their respective stockholders, executive and administrative personnel, or members, and their families, when the costs exceed \$2,000 per election.

Presidential candidates received the most "internal communications" support (61%) of 14 candidates. Jimmy Carter was supported the most, 57.6% (\$1,160,432), with Gerald Ford benefiting 2.2% (\$44,249), and four other candidates benefiting by 1.1% (Gerald Brown, \$1,406; Robert Byrd, \$266; Henry Jackson, \$3,280; and Morris Udall, \$18,624.)

47 Senate candidates were the subjects of the next highest percentage of total communications costs, 22.3% (\$449,858), with 361 House candidates receiving support of 16.6% (\$334,320).

Four of the candidates (2 President and 2 House) were also opposed in internal communications.

Of groups targeted by reportable communications costs, 98% were directed to members of labor organizations, one membership association, while 2% went to the executive or administrative personnel and stockholders of corporations.

Most of the communications were by direct mail (87.1%). Other methods included brochures, leaflets and flyers (6.2%), phone banks (2.7%), posters and banners (2%), and miscellaneous methods such as distribution of peanuts, tie tacs, star stickers, buttons, lapel pins and emblems, (1.9%).

The organizations reporting the largest "internal communications" expenditures were:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Amount Spent on Communications</u>
1. AFL-CIO.....	\$400,557
2. UAW (United Auto Workers).....	\$323,067
3. Building & Construction Trades Dept. (AFL-CIO).....	\$177,507
4. Communications Workers of America.....	\$120,423
5. Natl Rifle Assn. (Institute for Legislative Action).....	\$101,528
6. AFL-CIO, PA.....	\$101,056
7. Retail Clerks Intl Union.....	\$ 97,097
8. Ohio AFL-CIO.....	\$ 69,448
9. Michigan State AFL-CIO.....	\$ 45,720
10. American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO.	\$ 41,013

II. The National Party Index, entitled National Party Political Committee Receipts and Expenditures, covers receipts and expenditures of the two major political parties filed with the FEC from January 1, 1975 - December 31, 1976. It reveals that Democratic Party committees reported receiving \$7.3 million (57.9%) of its total contributions in amounts under \$100, and Republican Party committees reported receiving \$26.6 million (62.4%). In contributions over \$100, the Democratic committees received \$.5 million, and the Republican committees received \$1.1 million.

Under the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended in 1974 and 1976, an individual may contribute up to \$20,000 to a national political party in any calendar year.

The Democratic committees reported \$227,565 in expenditures on behalf of its general election candidates while the Republican committees reported spending \$1,186,602 on behalf of its general election candidates.