

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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(CORRECTED RELEASE)

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WASHINGTON - In a new study released today, the Federal Election Commission reported that \$3.9 million was spent in 1979-80, mostly by labor organizations, for internal communications related to federal elections.

This is an area of political activity generally overlooked in most studies on election spending.

These expenditures, known as "communication costs", are made directly from corporate or union treasuries and are in addition to and separate from the contributions and independent expenditures made by the PAC's of the corporations, unions, and membership groups. They must be reported to the FEC if the corporation, union or membership group exceeds \$2,000 per election in total communications activities.

Federal election law allows partisan communications to be financed by a corporation, union or membership organization as long as the communications are directed only toward stockholders, executive and administrative personnel (and their families) of a corporation, or to members of a union (and their families).

Partisan communications may include such activities as:

Distributing literature promoting a certain candidate or advocating his defeat (providing the material is not a reproduction of any candidate's own literature;

Inviting a candidate to appear at a regularly scheduled meeting or event attended by select personnel/members;

Paying for phone banks to contact select personnel/members to urge them to vote for a particular candidate;

Conducting get-out-the-vote drives aimed at select personnel/members urging them to vote for a particular candidate.

In the 1979-80 election cycle, a total of 62 groups, including 57 labor organizations, 4 membership groups, and 1 corporation spent \$3,971,559. Most of the money, \$3,193,479, was spent advocating the election of candidates; only \$778,080 was spent advocating their defeat.

Labor organizations spent close to \$3 million of the total spent. Membership groups spent approximately \$1 million. The sole corporation spent less than \$4,000.

(over)

The following is a list of the ten groups which reported spending the most money on communication costs:

National Rifle Association	\$ 803,839
American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees	\$ 532,538
AFL-CIO	\$ 441,064
UAW	\$ 402,280
United Steelworkers of America	\$ 209,512
National Education Association	\$ 183,636
Chamber of Commerce of the U.S.	\$ 158,650
Ohio AFL-CIO	\$ 149,439
Communication Workers of America	\$ 91,475
International Union of Bricklayers & Allied Craftsmen	\$ 85,555

The following candidates had the most money spent on their behalf, or against them:

Presidential

Jimmy Carter (D)	\$1,636,394 (For \$1,510,925...Against \$125,469)
Edward Kennedy (D)	\$ 598,577 (For \$ 443,077...Against \$155,500)
Ronald Reagan (R)	\$ 318,914 (For \$ 64,784...Against \$254,130)
John Anderson (I)	\$ 60,003 (Against)
Edmund G. Brown, Jr. (D)	\$ 23,284 (For)

Senatorial

Birch Bayh (D-IN)	\$ 44,770 (For \$ 44,292...Against \$ 478)
John Glenn (D-OH)	\$ 39,093 (For \$ 38,551...Against \$ 542)
Donald Stewart (D-AL)	\$ 28,256 (For)
Gaylord Nelson (D-WI)	\$ 27,989 (For \$ 15,094...Against \$ 12,895)
Charles McC. Mathias (R-MD)	\$ 25,309 (For \$ 25,061...Against \$ 248)

House

Les Aspin (D-WI)	\$ 20,642 (For)
Robert Kastenmeier (D-WI)	\$ 18,485 (For \$ 16,699...Against \$ 1,786)
Edward P. Beard (D-RI)	\$ 16,484 (For \$ 15,804...Against \$ 680)
Frank Thompson, Jr. (D-NJ)	\$ 15,510 (For \$ 15,285...Against \$ 225)
Royden P. Dyson (D-MD)	\$ 12,323 (For \$ 4,154...Against \$ 8,169)