

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



Press Office
999 E Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20463
Phone: Local 376-3155 Toll Free 800-424-9530

FOR RELEASE: THURSDAY
MARCH 31, 1988

CONTACT: FRED EILAND
SHARON SNYDER
KAREN FINUCAN

FINAL FEC REPORT ON 1985-86 INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURES SHOWS CHANGE IN SPENDING PATTERNS

WASHINGTON — While total independent expenditures continued to rise in Congressional campaigns in 1985-86, negative spending dropped sharply, according to a report published by the Federal Election Commission. In addition, more money was spent independently by PAC's sponsored by trade, membership and health associations in a field previously dominated by non-connected PAC's. Total independent spending by PAC's and individuals totalled \$10.2 million for the 1985-86 election cycle, the report said. The impact of the independent efforts can be analyzed by a comparison of election results with total amounts spent.

Under federal election law, an "independent expenditure" is money spent to finance a communication which advocates the election or defeat of a clearly identified federal candidate. Such an expenditure must be made without cooperation or consultation with the candidate or his/her campaign. Independent expenditures are not limited as are contributions made directly to candidates' campaigns.

Independent spending for and against Congressional candidates has risen over the past four election cycles. Since 1979-80, the amount spent independently on Senate and House campaigns by committees and individuals has risen from \$2.3 million to \$9.3 million in 1985-86. Generally, spending is higher in Presidential election years and most of that spending is on behalf of Presidential candidates. Negative spending once accounted for a greater percentage of all monies spent independently in Congressional election cycles, but totalled only \$1.3 million in 1985-86, or 13%.

For the '86 election cycle, independent spending was reported by 183 different sources: 168 political committees, 7 individuals, and 8 other groups. In 1983-84, 203 different sources reported activity: 155 political committees, 24 individuals, and 24 other groups. A total of 94 spenders reported in 1981-82: 70 political committees, 7 individuals, and 17 other groups. In 1979-80, there were 105 political committees, 33 individuals, and 80 other groups, for a total of 218 reporting entities.

8 8 0 8 0 1 0 3 6 4 2

An overview of independent spending for four election cycles follows:

Independent Spending 1979 - 1986

	<u>1979-80</u>	<u>1981-82</u>	<u>1983-84</u>	<u>1985-86</u>
Total Independent Spending	\$16.08	\$ 5.85	\$23.42	\$10.19
For	13.89	1.25	19.95	8.82
Against	2.19	4.60	3.47	1.37
Total Presidential	\$13.74	\$.09	\$17.47	\$.84
For	12.93	.09	16.64	.79
Against	.81	---	.83	.05
Total Congressional	\$ 2.34	\$ 5.75	\$ 5.95	\$ 9.35
For	.96	1.16	3.31	8.02
Against	\$ 1.38	\$ 4.59	\$ 2.64	\$ 1.33
(Percentage of total spent on Congressional races)	(61%)	(80%)	(44%)	(14%)

(figures in millions of dollars)

The following pages list the top spenders and the candidates on whose behalf or against whom the most money was spent. Charts also list the spending in various categories. The full FEC Index of Independent Expenditures, 1985-86, is available for \$10 from the Commission's Office of Public Records, 999 E St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20463.

3
3
6
4
3
0
8
0
8
0
3

The following committees reported spending the most independently:

<u>COMMITTEES</u>	<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
National Committee to Preserve Social Security PAC	\$1,910,840	\$20,760	\$1,931,600
Realtors' Political Action Committee	\$1,699,796	\$0	\$1,699,796
American Medical Association Political Action Committee	\$1,549,519	\$0	\$1,549,519
National Conservative Political Action Committee	\$581,557	\$498,257	\$1,079,814
Auto Dealers and Drivers for Free Trade PAC	\$887,102	\$0	\$887,102
NRA Political Victory Fund	\$753,820	\$72,943	\$826,763
National Right to Life Political Action Committee	\$396,259	\$10,005	\$406,264
Fund for a Conservative Majority	\$234,476	\$1,000	\$235,476
The Council for National Defense, Inc.	\$148,581	\$43,516	\$192,097
American Citizens for Public Action	\$91,386	\$55,677	\$147,063

The following individuals reported spending the most independently:

<u>INDIVIDUALS</u>	<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Smith, Francis (TX)	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000
Werthmann, Kitty (SD)	\$0	\$933	\$933
Uccelli, Peter (CA)	\$831	\$0	\$831
Shroyer, Hal (CO)	\$0	\$500	\$500
Towbes, Michael (CA)	\$500	\$0	\$500
Baron, Robert (WI)	\$0	\$375	\$375
Sanchez, Gonzalo M, M.D. (SD)	\$0	\$284	\$284

Candidates for or against whom the most money was spent:

	INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURES			ELECTION OUTCOME/ VOTE PCT
	FOR	AGAINST	TOTAL	
<u>PRESIDENT</u>				
Ronald Reagan (Republican, Incumbent '84)	\$718,797	\$17,250	\$736,047	N/A
Walter Mondale (Democrat, Challenger '84)	\$76,167	\$28,091	\$104,258	N/A
Jack Kemp (Republican, Open Seat '88)	\$375	\$0	\$375	N/A
<u>SENATE</u>				
Ken Kramer (R/CO, Open Seat)	\$727,315	\$0	\$727,315	L/ 48.4%
Paula Hawkins (R/FL, Incumbent)	\$529,066	\$14,426	\$543,492	L/ 45.2%
James Jones (D/OK, Open Seat)	\$525,747	\$0	\$525,747	L/ 44.7%
James Broyhill (R/NC, Open Seat)	\$442,578	\$0	\$442,578	L/ 48.2%
Slade Gorton (R/WA, Incumbent)	\$298,605	\$34,043	\$332,648	L/ 48.6%
Steve Symms (R/ID, Incumbent)	\$234,755	\$13,095	\$247,850	W/ 51.5%
James Abdnor (R/SD, Incumbent)	\$223,185	\$5,190	\$228,375	L/ 46.3%
Tim Wirth (D/CO, Open Seat)	\$21,845	\$204,793	\$226,638	W/ 49.9%
Jeremiah Denton (R/AL, Incumbent)	\$215,124	\$7,495	\$222,619	L/ 49.7%
Alan Cranston (D/CA, Incumbent)	\$35,068	\$183,022	\$218,090	W/ 49.2%
<u>HOUSE</u>				
Margaret Lowenthal (D/LA-07, Open Seat)	\$418,212	\$0	\$418,212	L/ 42.9%
James Eynon (R/IN-06, Open Seat)	\$315,838	\$0	\$315,838	L/ 30.8%
David Williams (R/CA-09, Open Seat)	\$252,495	\$0	\$252,495	L/ 30.2%
Jon Kyl (R/AZ-04, Open Seat)	\$173,520	\$0	\$173,520	W/ 64.5%
David Skaggs (D/CO-02, Open Seat)	\$115,045	\$407	\$115,452	W/ 51.4%
Ed Hargett (R/TX-01, Open Seat)	\$343	\$99,121	\$99,464	L/ 42.0%
John McIntee (R/IA-03, Open Seat)	\$71,068	\$0	\$71,068	L/ 45.3%
William Hendon (R/NC-11, Incumbent)	\$71,057	\$0	\$71,057	L/ 49.3%
Tim Johnson (D/SD-at large, Open Seat)	\$69,600	\$0	\$69,600	W/ 59.1%
Harold Volkmer (D/MO-09, Incumbent)	\$58,268	\$10,604	\$68,872	W/ 57.4%

INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURES: 1985-86

CANDIDATE TYPE	NO. CANDS	TOTAL SPENT	FOR		AGAINST	
			NO. CANDS	AMOUNT	NO. CANDS	AMOUNT
PRESIDENTIAL	3	\$ 840,680	3	\$ 795,339	1	\$ 45,341
Democrats	1	\$ 104,258	1	\$ 76,167	1	\$ 28,091
Republicans	2	\$ 736,422	2	\$ 719,172	1	\$ 17,250
TOTAL CONGRESSIONAL	660	\$ 9,358,171	634	\$ 8,030,435	121	\$ 1,327,736
SENATE	83	\$ 5,311,590	74	\$ 4,331,172	44	\$ 980,418
Democrats	38	\$ 1,620,794	31	\$ 988,382	26	\$ 632,412
Incumbents	16	\$ 582,712	11	\$ 230,983	10	\$ 351,729
Challengers	13	\$ 721,132	12	\$ 677,255	9	\$ 43,877
Open Seats	9	\$ 316,950	8	\$ 80,144	7	\$ 236,806
Republicans	45	\$ 3,690,796	43	\$ 3,342,790	18	\$ 348,006
Incumbents	23	\$ 2,231,538	22	\$ 1,959,947	13	\$ 271,591
Challengers	14	\$ 207,848	14	\$ 132,038	3	\$ 75,810
Open Seats	8	\$ 1,251,410	7	\$ 1,250,805	2	\$ 605
HOUSE	577	\$ 4,046,581	560	\$ 3,699,263	77	\$ 347,318
Democrats	310	\$ 2,612,971	297	\$ 2,385,685	61	\$ 227,286
Incumbents	219	\$ 1,570,820	211	\$ 1,359,659	48	\$ 211,161
Challengers	55	\$ 213,002	52	\$ 210,505	7	\$ 2,497
Open Seats	36	\$ 829,149	34	\$ 815,521	6	\$ 13,628
Republicans	265	\$ 1,433,610	263	\$ 1,313,578	16	\$ 120,032
Incumbents	143	\$ 425,525	143	\$ 404,896	12	\$ 20,629
Challengers	86	\$ 624,548	84	\$ 624,328	2	\$ 220
Open Seats	36	\$ 383,537	36	\$ 284,354	2	\$ 99,183
Others	2	\$ 6,302	2	\$ 6,302	0	\$ 0
Challengers	2	\$ 6,302	2	\$ 6,302	0	\$ 0
TOTAL DEMOCRATS	349	\$ 4,338,023	329	\$ 3,450,234	88	\$ 887,789
TOTAL REPUBLICANS	312	\$ 5,860,828	308	\$ 5,375,540	35	\$ 485,288
TOTAL OTHERS	2	\$ 6,302	2	\$ 6,302	0	\$ 0
TOTAL INCUMBENTS *	401	\$ 4,810,595	387	\$ 3,955,485	83	\$ 855,110
TOTAL CHALLENGERS*	170	\$ 1,772,832	164	\$ 1,650,428	21	\$ 122,404
TOTAL OPEN SEATS *	89	\$ 2,781,046	85	\$ 2,430,824	17	\$ 350,222
GRAND TOTAL	663	\$ 10,198,951	637	\$ 8,825,774	122	\$ 1,373,077

*These categories include only monies spent in Congressional races.