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“I am with you always. I love you. Lead on. Lead on.”

Justin Dart, Jr.

April 7, 2004

Ms. Mai T. Dinh
Acting Assistant General Counsel
Federal Election Commission
Washington, DC 20463

Comments Re: Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Political Committee Status

Ms. Dinh:

I appreciate the opportunity to provide input on the FEC's proposed rule change.

I respectfully oppose the proposed changes.

My late husband, Justin Dart, Jr., was considered to be one of the fathers of the Americans with Disabilities Act - the ADA. He worked on its passage all along with former President George H. W. Bush. Justin was a wheelchair user for 53 out of 71 years of his magnificent life.

He believed in the American democracy. He believed in the Declaration of Independence and often quoted it, "We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness—" He worked tirelessly for the empowerment, independence and integration of Americans with disabilities and other oppressed people. He was a leading member of numerous non-profit organizations throughout the country. He often made this demand of his colleagues: "Get into politics as if your life depended on it. Because it does." He worked with significant number of members and staff of Congress, Reagan, Bush, Sr. and Clinton Administrations, business, labor, religious organizations, education, and civil rights movement colleagues in all parties. He often insisted, "We have to rise above politics as usual and work together as Republicans, Democrats, Independents and plain Americans in order to get to the Promised Land."

I fear that the proposed changes will severely limit the finally recognized equal opportunity AND equal responsibility for Americans with disabilities to be productive citizens in the main stream of American life. They need to learn about and exercise their rights under the law. They undoubtedly make some mistakes as a part of growing process, but they must not be punished and shut out again from the opportunities and responsibilities of the American Dream.

Sincerely,


Yoshiko Dart

**Justice for All means Real Power for All,
Real Choices for All, Real Access to the Dream for All**