

# FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

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WASHINGTON -- A two-day meeting to discuss election administration problems will be held in Washington on February 23 and 24 by the Advisory Panel of the Federal Election Commission's National Clearinghouse on Election Administration.

The 22-member panel, comprised of state and local election officials, defines problem areas and information needs with respect to the administration of Federal elections, and to help identify ways the FEC can assist state and local elections officials in administering Federal elections.

FEC Chairman John Warren McGarry said the two-day session will focus on problems encountered during the 1980, and preceding, elections, application of computer technology to the registration and election process, and a Congressionally-mandated FEC proposal for a preliminary study on Voting Systems Standards. Regarding the latter, the Advisory Panel will discuss problems which members have encountered with voting systems in their individual jurisdictions, and their suggestions on how the Commission's proposal would assist state and local officials in solving those problems.

The February meeting will be the eighth since the Advisory Panel was created in 1975 to advise the FEC on the best ways to utilize its resources to help improve the administration of elections throughout the nation. The Federal Election Commission is the only agency specifically charged by Congress with conducting research in the administration of elections.

All of the Advisory Panel's sessions will be open and the public is invited to participate both in the panel meetings and in the discussions that accompany them.

Six new members have been named by the FEC to the 22-member Advisory Panel. They are: Leonard Panish, Registrar-Recorder of Los Angeles County, California; Charles Kaniss, Election Supervisor, Pinellas County, Florida; Mrs. Pat Crawford, Executive Deputy Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; George Strake, Secretary of State, Texas; Joaquin Avila, Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund, San Antonio, Texas; Timothy A. Bassett, Chairman, Joint Committee on Election Laws, Massachusetts House of Representatives.

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Incumbent members of the Panel are: H.S. "Hal" Runyan, State Senator, Phoenix, Arizona; Paul Riviere, Secretary of State, Arkansas; William Durley, Assistant Secretary of State for Elections and Political Reform, California; Jean Marc Hamel, Chief Election Officer of Canada; John Countryman, Chairman, Illinois Election Board; Stanley T. Kusper, Jr., Cook County Clerk, Illinois; Mrs. Marie Garber, Supervisor of Elections, Montgomery County, Maryland; Don Robertson, House of Delegates, Maryland; Joan A. Grove, Secretary of State, Minnesota; Lyall A. Schwarzkopf, City Clerk, Minneapolis, Minnesota; Ray Phelps, Director of Elections, Office of Secretary of State, Oregon; Allen J. Beerman, Secretary of State, Nebraska; Thomas W. Wallace, Director, New York State Board of Elections; William Huish, Provo County Clerk, Utah; Gerald J. Ferwerda, Executive Secretary, State Elections Board, Wisconsin; Henry Der, Chinese for Affirmative Action, San Francisco, California.