

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 24, 1985

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FEC ASKS COMMENTS ON PROPOSED ENFORCEMENT RULES

WASHINGTON--An "Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking" has been published by the Federal Election Commission, which is considering revising its regulations governing the compliance process under the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended.

Public comments on the proposed rulemaking are due on or before June 21, which is 30 days after publication in the Federal Register on May 22.

Four specific issues for possible inclusion in the regulations have been targeted. They are: 1) providing respondents with the legal and factual basis for Commission "Reason to Believe" findings in externally generated complaints; 2) procedures for requesting stays of a final determination on repayment of Federal funds pending petition for review; 3) requests for extension of time; and 4) naming committee treasurers as respondents.

Comments are encouraged, as well, on existing compliance regulations and on other areas that could be addressed in these rules.

The Commission's compliance regulations were last revised in 1980, and have served through three election cycles. During that period, a number of related issues have been raised by public groups, individuals involved in compliance actions before the Commission and by Commissioners, themselves. "With the recent conclusion of a major election cycle, this is a good time to begin a rulemaking in this area," the Commission explained in its publication.
