

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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FEC SEEKS SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDS TO HELP RECOVER DISCLOSURE DATA

WASHINGTON--The Federal Election Commission has requested \$282,000 in supplemental funds "to help restore vital disclosure services" which the Agency has had to curtail for lack of adequate funding.

In its request, the FEC said that the supplement would enable it to recapture federal campaign finance data lost since February 1, and return to solid footing for the 1986 Congressional election cycle. "If the supplement is not forthcoming, the public will be deprived of the level of disclosure enjoyed during the last election, and all will have lost the historical data on the 1986 election cycle," the Agency advised Congress.

A total of \$858,000 has been cut from the FEC budget; \$323,000 on the erroneous assumption of a government-wide pay cut, and \$535,000 as the result of the Deficit Reduction Act of 1985.

Although the President, on July 26, 1985, requested Congress to restore the \$323,000, Congress did not. However, the Senate Appropriations Committee advised the FEC to request a supplemental appropriation in fiscal year 1986 should events "dictate that the Commission's work cannot be efficiently and effectively completed without additional funding."

In its request, the FEC explained, "One or the other of the aforementioned reductions might have been absorbed without crippling a vital program administered by the agency. Adapting to both cuts, however, has proven to be calamitous."

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