

# FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

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## FEC TO HEAR "SOFT MONEY" TESTIMONY; HEARING DATE CHANGED

WASHINGTON -- The Federal Election Commission will hear testimony beginning at 10 a.m., Thursday, December 15, 1988, concerning proposed new rules on how various groups should allocate and report funds that influence both federal and non-federal elections.

The hearing, which was originally set for December 14, will be conducted in the Commission's 9th floor meeting room.

Scheduled to testify are: E. Mark Braden, Republican National Committee; Joseph A. Rieser, Jr., Democratic National Committee; Robert F. Bauer, Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee; Charles H. Bell, Jr., California Republican Party; Lance H. Olson, California Democratic Party; Gordon M. Strauss, Ohio Republican State Central & Executive Committee; Ellen Miller, Herb K. Schultz and Paul Hoff, Center for Responsive Politics; and Fred Wertheimer, Common Cause.

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## COMMISSION INVITES COMMENTS ON PROPOSED NEW CAMPAIGN DEBT RULES

The FEC has scheduled a public hearing on Wednesday, February 15, 1989, for testimony concerning a proposal to replace current regulations governing campaign debt settlements.

The agency is seeking written comments in advance of the hearing on proposed changes which were published under a "Notice of Proposed Rulemaking" in the Federal Register on December 6, 1988. Written comments are due by January 27, 1989.

The draft rules under consideration would permit political committees to settle debts only when they are preparing to terminate, and would require committees to submit comprehensive debt settlement plans for FEC review. Additionally, the proposed rules would contain language concerning ongoing committees, disputed debts, advances by campaign staff and others, salary owed to committee employees, transfers involving indebted committees, and determinations of excess funds.

Comments should be addressed to Ms. Susan E. Propper, Assistant General Counsel, 999 E Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20463. Persons wishing to testify before the Commission are asked to indicate this intent in their written comments.

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