

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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FEC OFFERS RECOMMENDATIONS TO ENHANCE ELECTION LAW

WASHINGTON — Thirty proposals to amend federal election law were submitted today to Congress and the President by the Federal Election Commission in its annual Legislative Recommendations report.

FEC Chairman Danny Lee McDonald has established, for the first time, a Legislative Recommendations Committee to work with members of Congress. The Committee, consisting of Chairman McDonald and Commissioner Joan Aikens, will explain the Commission's proposals and urge their support.

"These recommendations are the result of our years of experience in administering federal election laws," Chairman McDonald said. "The Commission is placing highest priority on bringing the proposed changes to the Congress and urging their serious consideration."

Included in the 1989 report are five new recommendations:

**Congress should be alert to the fact that, based on Commission projections, by 1996 the Presidential Election Campaign Fund may lack sufficient money to fully fund all phases of the presidential elections.

**Congress may wish to consider whether new legislation is needed to monitor political committees that engage in activities that influence both federal and nonfederal elections.

**In light of the decision of the U.S. Supreme Court in Federal Election Commission v. Massachusetts Citizens for Life, Inc. (MCFL), Congress may wish to amend the provision prohibiting corporate and labor spending in connection with federal elections in order to incorporate the text of the Court's decision in the statute.

**Congress may wish to revise the statute to require registered political committees to display the appropriate disclaimer notice, when practicable, in any communication issued to the general public.

**Congress may wish to consider legislation that would permit the Commission to randomly audit political committees in an effort to promote voluntary compliance with election law and ensure public confidence in the election process.

Other proposals, which have been submitted previously, concern public financing of presidential elections, contributions and expenditures, registration and reporting, enforcement, fraudulent misrepresentation and honoraria. Adoption of these recommendations would clarify and improve election law.

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