

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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FEC APPROVES REVISED MEMBERSHIP RULES

WASHINGTON -- The Federal Election Commission has given final approval to revised regulations defining who is a "member" of a membership association and has forwarded them to Congress for 30 legislative days, as required by the statute. Also approved was the "Explanation and Justification" for the new rules.

Present membership rules were adopted in 1977. The revisions incorporate interpretations of the law by the Commission and the U. S. Supreme Court since that time, and follow written comments and a public hearing.

While retaining portions of the existing definition of "member", the new rules also reflect other indicia of membership, including a person's financial attachment to an organization, such as the obligation to pay dues, and the person's right to vote for those on an organization's governing body.

The effective date of the regulations will be set by the FEC at the end of the legislative period.

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