

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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FEC ANNOUNCES 1996 PARTY SPENDING LIMITS --AMOUNTS RANGE FROM \$123,640 TO \$2.8 MILLION--

WASHINGTON -- The Federal Election Commission today announced the 1996 general election spending limits for the national and state political party committees.

Amounts for the Senate campaigns will range from a low of \$123,640 in Alaska, to a high of \$2,818,498 in California.

These general election expenditures, known as "coordinated expenditures", are limited under the election law. The national committees of each political party have a set amount they may spend on behalf of each U.S. House and Senate candidate. State party committees may spend equal amounts or may transfer their limits to the national committees, effectively doubling the national committees' expenditure limits in those states or districts.

Coordinated expenditures are made in addition to direct contributions. They are allowed only with regard to the general election, and do not count as either contributions to candidates or as expenditures made by candidates. Party committees may work with candidates' campaigns to determine how the money should be spent, but the campaigns do not receive the funds, the expenditures are reported directly by the party committees on special schedules on their financial disclosure reports.

The election law sets the limit for House races at \$10,000, plus cost-of-living adjustment (COLA). For 1996, that limit is \$30,910, except in states with only one congressional district, where the limit will be \$61,820.

The limits for Senate races are based on state voting age populations (VAP), with a base limit for states with smaller populations. The formula for determining a state's limit is:

$$\begin{array}{l} \$.02 \times \text{State VAP} + \text{Cost-of-Living} \text{---} \\ \text{---or---} \\ \$20,000 + \text{Cost-of-Living} \text{---} \end{array} \text{---whichever is greater}$$

The following page lists political party expenditure limits for each state.

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Note to editors/correspondents: Updated VAP and COLA figures were delayed due to budget and weather-induced shutdowns in certain segments of the federal government. The spending limits are, at this time, unofficial until the Labor Department and the Bureau of Census certify the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) and voting age population (VAP) figures. However, the FEC does not expect the computations to change and committees are being so notified.

COORDINATED PARTY EXPENDITURE LIMITS FOR '96 SENATE NOMINEES

State	VAP (in thousands)	Expenditure Limit
Alabama	3,173	\$ 196,155
Alaska	414	61,820
Arizona	3,025	187,006
Arkansas	1,834	113,378
California	22,796	1,409,249
Colorado	2,765	170,932
Connecticut	2,477	153,128
Delaware	538	61,820
DC	440	61,820
Florida	10,794	667,285
Georgia	5,277	326,224
Hawaii	878	61,820
Idaho	815	61,820
Illinois	8,704	538,081
Indiana	4,316	266,815
Iowa	2,117	130,873
Kansas	1,873	115,789
Kentucky	2,888	178,536
Louisiana	3,103	191,827
Maine	936	61,820
Maryland	3,770	233,061
Massachusetts	4,642	286,968
Michigan	7,030	434,595
Minnesota	3,364	207,962
Mississippi	1,935	119,622
Missouri	3,942	243,694
Montana	634	61,820
Nebraska	1,194	73,813
Nevada	1,132	69,980
New Hampshire	853	61,820
New Jersey	5,982	369,807
New Mexico	1,185	73,257
New York	13,599	840,690
North Carolina	5,396	333,581
North Dakota	471	61,820
Ohio	8,291	512,550
Oklahoma	2,400	148,368
Oregon	2,344	144,906
Pennsylvania	9,163	566,457
Rhode Island	752	61,820
South Carolina	2,729	168,707
South Dakota	523	61,820
Tennessee	3,946	243,942
Texas	13,324	823,690
Utah	1,277	78,944
Vermont	438	61,820
Virginia	5,006	309,471
Washington	4,013	248,084
West Virginia	1,406	86,919
Wisconsin	3,770	233,061
Wyoming	344	61,820

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