

# FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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## FEC SUBMITS ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS TO PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON -- The Federal Election Commission has submitted to the President a list of recommendations for legislative action, as it is required by statute to do annually.

There are 50 recommendations on this year's list, many of which would "greatly ease the burden on political committees and streamline the administration of the current campaign finance law," said Chairman Lee Ann Elliott in her cover letter to President Clinton. The recommendations include:

-- Making the Commission sole point of entry for disclosure documents: Currently only the House submits disclosure documents directly to the FEC; Senate campaign committees file reports with the Secretary of the Senate, who forwards them to the FEC.

-- Election period limitations: Would eliminate complicated and time-consuming bookkeeping requirements by applying a single contribution limit to an election cycle, instead of separate limits for the primary and general elections.

-- Waiver authority: Would allow the Commission to eliminate unnecessary reporting by granting reporting waivers and adjusting filing requirements when warranted.

-- Ensuring independent authority of the FEC in all litigation: Although Congress has granted the FEC authority to conduct its own litigation, independent of the Justice Department, clarifications in that independence are needed, particularly on explicitly authorizing the FEC to petition the Supreme Court for certiorari to conduct its Supreme Court litigation. Currently the Solicitor General of the United States possesses that authority.

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NOTE TO EDITORS/CORRESPONDENTS: Copies of the 26-page "1996 Legislative Recommendations" are available through the FEC Press Office.

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