

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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FEC SUBMITS ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

WASHINGTON – The Federal Election Commission has submitted legislative recommendations to the President and Congress, an annual requirement under federal election law.

There are 56 recommendations in the submission, both new and resubmissions from prior years, including:

– **Electronic Filing Threshold**: Would result in better use of government and political committee resources by granting the FEC the authority to require electronic filing of reports by committees that meet a specific level of financial activity. (New recommendation.)

– **Filing Reports Using Registered or Certified Mail**: Would simplify the law and prevent delays in mail delivery of campaign finance reports by eliminating the mail date and requiring that reports be filed by a specific due date. (New recommendation.)

– **Campaign -Cycle Reporting**: Would eliminate burdensome recordkeeping and reporting provisions that presently require campaigns to track contributions on both a calendar-year and a per-election basis. (Previously submitted recommendation.)

– **Issue Advocacy Advertising**: Would stipulate when coordination of an issue advocacy advertisement with a candidate or campaign would be considered an in-kind contribution, clearly stating that coordination of such a public communication with a corporation or labor organization would be prohibited activity. (New recommendation.)

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-- **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. (Previously submitted recommendation.)

-- **Independent Authority of FEC in All Litigation:** Would ensure nonpartisan enforcement of the law by explicitly authorizing the Commission instead of the U.S. Solicitor General to petition the Supreme Court for certiorari under Title 2. (Previously submitted recommendation.)

-- **Candidate's Use of Campaign Funds:** Would examine whether the use of campaign funds to pay a salary to the candidate is considered to be a "personal use" of those funds. (Previously submitted, but revised in 1997.)

-- **Expedited Enforcement Procedures and Injunctive Authority:** Would provide for expedited enforcement of complaints filed shortly before an election, permit injunctive relief in certain cases, and allow the Commission to adopt expedited procedures in such instances. (New recommendation.)

-- **Subpoena and Reason-to-Believe Notification Signature Authority:** Would clarify provisions to permit any member of the Commission to sign duly-authorized subpoenas and notifications of findings of reason-to-believe, rather than limiting signature authority to the Chairman and Vice Chairman. (New recommendation.)

-- **Random Audits:** Would require the Commission to randomly audit political committees in an effort to promote voluntary compliance with the election law and ensure public confidence in the election process. (Previously submitted recommendation.)

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Note to news editors and correspondents: Copies of the entire legislative recommendations package are available in the FEC Press Office.