

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT
COMMISSION
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June 24, 1980

Mr. Phillip B. Robinson
P. O. Box 2037
Ventnor City, New Jersey 08406

Re: The New Jersey Campaign Contributions and
Expenditures Reporting Act, Chapter 83, Laws of
1973 as Amended and Supplemented ("the Act")
Your letter dated April 30, 1980
Opinion #0-23-80

Dear Mr. Robinson:

Your letter dated April 30, 1980, to the New Jersey
Election Law Enforcement Commission ("the Commission"), in-
cluding a request for advisory opinion, has been forwarded
to me for reply.

The Act has been construed by the Courts of the State of
New Jersey so as not to require reporting of independent ex-
penditures with respect to a candidate, including expenditures
in opposition to a candidate, where the amount expended does
not exceed \$750. In addition, under Regulations presently
proposed by the Commission, such independent expenditures
would not be reportable unless the amount expended with respect
to a candidate exceeded \$1,000.

Independent expenditures are generally regarded as ex-
penditures made without the consent and cooperation of the
candidate who is benefitted. Expenditures made with the consent
or cooperation of such a candidate would be considered to be
expenditures of that candidate and would be required to be
reported as campaign expenses by such candidate. On the facts
you set forth, however, assuming that the expenditures are in-
dependent as you have stated, you would have no reporting obli-
gation based upon the expenditure you describe.

Yours very truly,



Edward J. Farrell
Legal Counsel

EJF:no