

0-26-76

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT  
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September 24, 1976

Anthony L. Hodges, Esq.  
Continental Oil Company  
P.O. Box 2197  
Houston, Texas 77001

Re: The New Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures  
Reporting Act, Chapter 83, Laws of 1973, as  
Amended and Supplemented ("the Act")  
Your Letter Dated July 1, 1976  
Opinion #(0-26-76)

Dear Mr. Hodges:

Your letter dated July 1, 1976 to the New Jersey Election  
Law Enforcement Commission ("the Commission"), including a  
request for advisory opinion, has been forwarded to me for  
reply.

(1) The Act does not prohibit contributions by a corporation  
and except for specific prohibitions upon contributions by  
banks, insurance companies and public utilities or regulated  
industries contained in N.J.S.A. 19:34-32, 19:34-45, there  
is no prohibition under New Jersey law against contributions  
by a corporation to candidates in New Jersey State elections.  
Except for limitations upon contributions to the candidacy  
of a candidate for governor of New Jersey in the general  
election, there are no limits on contributions under the  
Act.

(2) New Jersey law does not prohibit the formation of a  
political committee by any person including a corporation.

(3) New Jersey does not purport to assert jurisdiction  
over activities involving political committees for the  
support of federal candidates, since the Act does not apply  
to elections for federal office.

(4) Nothing in the Act prohibits the formation of a  
payroll deduction plan for collection of voluntary contributions  
from corporate employees.

(5) Nothing in the Act prohibits a corporation or a  
political committee from contributing to or supporting  
issues or ballot questions in state elections in New Jersey.

Anthony L. Hodges, Esq.

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September 24, 1976

In general you should be aware that a political committee as defined in the Act may have the obligation to comply with certain reporting and other requirements of the Act, and this may turn upon whether the activities of the organization are such that it is a contributor only to a candidate or whether its activities on behalf of the candidate in addition to cash contribution, are such as to make it in some significant way an active participant in the campaign activity of the candidate and therefore subject to the reporting and other requirements of the Act. If you have any questions with respect to the specific reporting or other requirements which might affect your corporation or its political committee, we shall be happy to try to answer them.

We are enclosing a copy of the Act showing amendments to date.

Yours very truly,



Edward J. Farrell  
Legal Counsel

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