0-15-77

July 27, 1977

Mr. George E. Norman, Jr. Vice President Burlington Industries, Inc. 3330 West Friendly Avenue Greensboro, North Carolina 27420

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 12, 1977
Opinion #(0-15-77)

Dear Mr. Norman:

Your letter dated April 12, 1977 to the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission ("the Commission"), including a request for advisory opinion, has been forwarded to me for reply.

With respect to the question raised in the numbered Paragraph 1 of your letter, there are no restrictions which prohibit a qualified political action committee from contributing to candidates, except that with respect to the general election for the office of governor (funded in part with public funds) there is a \$600.00 limitation on contributions from any one contributor to a candidate who has elected to receive public funds.

A committee which is principally organized for, or the principal business of which, is to engage in political activity (such as a political action committee), and which makes contributions on behalf of candidates, becomes a political committee under the New Jersey Act, with the obligation of filing preelection and post-election reports with respect to elections in which it makes contributions or is otherwise involved. A copy of the proposed regulation of the Commission relating to such political committees is enclosed.

With respect to you question numbered 2, there are no such restrictions and contributions that would be treated in the same manner as the contributions described in your question numbered 1.

Copy of the forms R-1 for reporting and instructions which accompany those forms are being forwarded to you under separate cover for your information. The statements contained in this opinion respecting limitation of the provisions of the Act and the regulation of the Commission to candidates seeking public funding are subject to a final determination by the Court in a case presently pending before the Supreme Court of New Jersey entitled Common Cause v. New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission.

Yours very truly,

Edward J. Farrell Legal Counsel

EJF:jj Enclosure