STATE OF NEW JERSEY ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT FRANK P. REICHE LEWIS B. THURSTON, III COMMISSION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NATIONAL STATE BANK BLDG. SIDNEY GOLDMANN EDWARD J. FARRELL SUITE 1114 VICE CHAIRMAN · COUNSEL TRENTON, N. J. 08605 JOSEPHINE S. MARGETTS ARCHIBALD S. ALEXANDER (609) 292-8700 July 25, 1977 Mr. Thomas McKim 251 Park Avenue Midland Park, New Jersey The New Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act, Chapter 83, Laws of 1973 as Amended and Supplemented ("the Act") Your Letter Dated April 18, 1977 Opinion #(0-17-77)Dear Mr. McKim: Your letter dated April 18, 1977 to the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission ("the Commission"), including a request for advisory opinion, has been forwarded to me for reply. There is nothing in the Act which prevents a person who is or has been a candidate from conducting a testimonial or other fundraising affair. The withdrawal from the race of a candidate does not terminate his obligation to file reports with respect to his candidacy and those reports must disclose the contributions and expenditures. Any final report by such candidate must reflect the disposition of funds. Funds raised in the circumstances in which you describe could lawfully be transferred to another political committee or refunded to the donors pro rata, or used for any other lawful purpose. The raising of money by a person after he has officially withdrawn from the race might raise a question whether the funds were in fact being raised on behalf of some other candidate or candidates and properly reportable in the reports of those candidates and this is a question which would depend on the facts. Yours very truly, Sew Tarrell Edward J. Farrell Legal Counsel EJF:jj