



State of New Jersey

ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

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June 9, 1981

Philip J. Cocuzza
Executive Vice President
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1000 Route 9
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ADVISORY OPINION NO. 48-80

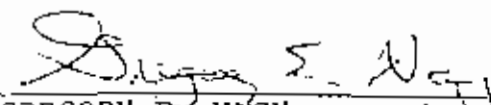
Dear Mr. Cocuzza:

I am writing on behalf of the Election Law Enforcement Commission in response to your letter of December 19, 1980 requesting an advisory opinion. The Commission wishes to express its regret in the delay in responding to this request. You have asked whether a political action committee (PAC) of a national association may solicit contributions by use of a technique you characterize as voluntary dues billing of its local member associations. You are hereby advised that the Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act (N.J.S.A. 19:44A-1 et seq.) does not regulate the means of solicitation of contributions and therefore the Commission concludes it has no jurisdiction to pass upon your inquiry.

The Reporting Act defines "contributions" to include all loans and transfers of money or other thing of value to or by any candidate, political committee, committee of a political party or political information organization, and all pledges or other commitments or assumptions of liability to make any such transfer. N.J.S.A. 19:44A-3(d). If a political action committee makes a contribution to a New Jersey candidate, it acquires reporting responsibilities as set forth in Commission Regulation N.J.A.C. 19:25-4.8. However, nothing in the Reporting Act, or the regulations promulgated pursuant to that Act, regulate the circumstances under which contributions may be solicited. The jurisdiction of the Commission to give advisory opinions is limited to questions arising under the provisions of the Reporting Act itself. N.J.S.A. 19:44A-6(f). Therefore, the Commission must conclude it is unable to express any opinion in regard to your inquiry.

Very truly yours,

ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

By: 
GREGORY E. NAGY
Staff Counsel