



State of New Jersey

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ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

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October 31, 1983

Arthur R. Kramer, Treasurer  
North Jersey Builders  
Political Action Committee, Inc.  
P.O. Box 5  
River Edge, New Jersey 07661

ADVISORY OPINION NO. 16-1983

Dear Mr. Kramer:

Your letter to the Election Law Enforcement Commission requesting an Advisory Opinion has been considered by the Commission and I have been directed to issue this response. You have asked the Commission to determine whether the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:34-32, a statute prohibiting insurance corporations from making political contributions, precludes a title insurance company from purchasing tickets to a political fund raiser sponsored by the North Jersey Builders Political Action Committee, Inc. For the reasons set forth below, the Commission must decline undertaking the Advisory Opinion you seek because its jurisdiction is limited to questions arising under the provisions of the Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act (hereinafter, the Act) N.J.S.A. 19:44A-1 et seq.

The jurisdiction of the Commission to issue Advisory Opinions is limited to whether a given set of facts constitutes a violation of any of the provisions of the Act, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-6(f). The prohibition against insurance corporations making contributions to candidates for public elective office in this State is not included in the Reporting Act, but appears in Chapter 34 of Title 19 of the Revised Statutes, specifically N.J.S.A. 19:34-32. Any violation of Chapter 34 gives rise to criminal sanctions, N.J.S.A. 19:34-1. Therefore, the Commission must respectfully decline your request for an Advisory Opinion because it lacks jurisdiction.

Advisory Opinion No. 16-1983

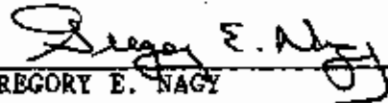
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While the Commission is unable to exercise jurisdiction in this matter, it will forward copies of your request and this response to Attorney General Irwin I. Kimmelman, for consideration. The application of the statutory prohibition to title insurance companies.

Very truly yours,

ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

By:   
GREGORY E. NAGY  
Staff Counsel

GEN/ck  
Enclosure