



## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR RELEASE:

IMMEDIATELY  
NOVEMBER 15, 1988

### PRESS ADVISORY

Attached are a letter and resolution sent today to Governor Thomas H. Kean and the leaders of the New Jersey Senate and Assembly by the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission.

The purpose of the letter and resolution was to urge immediate legislative action to amend the Gubernatorial Public Financing provisions of The New Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act.

Without amendment, the Commission believes the viability and integrity of New Jersey's Gubernatorial Public Financing Program to be in jeopardy.

##



## State of New Jersey

### ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

NATIONAL STATE BANK BLDG., SUITE 1215  
28 W. STATE STREET, CN-185  
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625-0185  
(609) 292-8700

STANLEY G. BEDFORD  
CHAIRMAN

OWEN V. MCNANY, III  
VICE CHAIRMAN

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JEFFREY M. BRINDLE  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

GREGORY E. NAGY  
LEGAL DIRECTOR

EDWARD J. FARRELL  
COUNSEL

November 15, 1988

Honorable Thomas H. Kean  
Governor  
Governor's Office  
State House - CN 001  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Honorable James R. Hurley  
Senate Minority Leader  
New Jersey State Senate  
State House Annex - CN 099  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Honorable John F. Russo  
President  
New Jersey State Senate  
State House Annex - CN 099  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Honorable Willie B. Brown  
Assembly Minority Leader  
New Jersey State Assembly  
State House Annex - CN 098  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Honorable Chuck Hardwick  
Speaker  
New Jersey State Assembly  
State House Annex - CN 098  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Gentlemen:

At its meeting today, November 15, 1988, the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission adopted the attached resolution concerning the New Jersey Gubernatorial Public Financing Program.

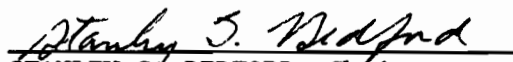
The Commission is convinced that without amendment to The New Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act to reflect the increased cost of campaigning, the viability and integrity of New Jersey's model Gubernatorial Public Financing Program will be in jeopardy.


Governor Kean  
Senators Russo & Hurley  
Assemblymen Hardwick & Brown  
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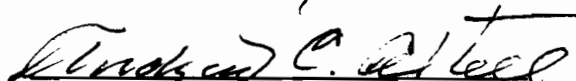
We request your urgent attention in this matter and will provide any information or assistance you require.

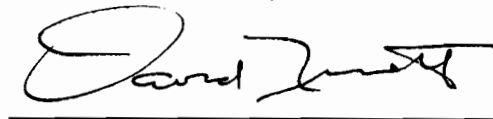
Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

  
STANLEY Q. BEDFORD, Chairman

  
OWEN V. McNANY, III, Vice Chairman

  
ANDREW C. AXTELL, Commissioner

  
DAVID LINETT, Commissioner

SGB/ck



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November 15, 1988

#### Resolution of the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission

- WHEREAS, The New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission is charged with the responsibility for administration of New Jersey's Gubernatorial Public Financing Program pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-27, et seq.; and,
- WHEREAS, The New Jersey Gubernatorial Public Financing Program was established in 1974 with the express intention to provide public funds to gubernatorial candidates in amounts sufficient to permit those candidates to seek election to the State's highest office and to do so free from improper influence; and,
- WHEREAS, New Jersey's Gubernatorial Public Financing Program has operated since 1977 to provide such partial public financing of gubernatorial general elections and since 1981 to provide partial public financing of gubernatorial primary elections and has done so with wide public support and acclaim at the state and national levels; and,
- WHEREAS, The last amendments to the program adjusting the qualification threshold and contribution limit were enacted in 1980 and the Commission has established that the cost of gubernatorial campaigns has risen by 60.3 percent since the 1981 elections thereby eroding the value of the campaign dollar; and,
- WHEREAS, The New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission has attempted through its reports, New Jersey Public Financing: 1985 Gubernatorial Elections and Gubernatorial Cost Analysis Report issued in 1986 and 1988 to highlight the severe problems in running a functional campaign and in administering the Gubernatorial Public Financing Program without further amendment to reflect the increased cost of campaigns; and,
- WHEREAS, The Commission has attempted to advise the Governor and the leadership of the New Jersey Legislature in a non-election year and non-political setting of the crucial need to amend the unrealistically low limits and thresholds in the Act and is now concerned that failure to do so at once will result in the destruction of a nationally recognized program that was both a pioneer and model of reform; now, therefore,

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N.J. Election Law Enforcement Commission  
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BE IT RESOLVED THAT the bipartisan New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission unanimously and urgently requests that the governmental leaders of the State of New Jersey make every effort to adopt legislation immediately that will restore the viability and functional integrity of the New Jersey Gubernatorial Public Financing Program.