



# NEWS RELEASE

Respond to:  
P.O. Box 185  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0185  
(609) 292-8700

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CONTACT: FREDERICK M. HERRMANN, Ph.D.  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FOR RELEASE:

April 7, 2000

## PRESS ADVISORY

Executive Director Frederick M. Herrmann announced today that, pursuant to Executive Order No. 66 (1978), the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (hereafter, the Commission) has proposed the readoption with amendments of its regulations. This “Sunset” process of review of the regulations and readoption is required to be conducted every five years. With the exceptions addressed in the proposed new rules, amendments, and repeals, the Executive Director explained that Commission has determined that its rules are necessary, reasonable, and proper for the purpose for which they were originally promulgated, as required by the Executive Order.

Herrmann noted that among the proposed amendments, definitions are proposed for the terms “in-kind contribution” and “national political party committee.” Changes to existing rules and repeals are proposed to conform the rules to recent legislation that eliminates the exemption from reporting for “testing the waters” or exploratory activity. A new rule is proposed to clarify that a candidate for an office in an election is limited to establishment of a candidate committee, a joint candidates committee, or both, but may not simultaneously establish and maintain other committees for the same office in future elections. A proposed new rule defines the term “net liabilities” in an election and permits a candidate with “net liabilities” remaining from an election to maintain a candidate committee account after an election to receive contributions to satisfy those liabilities. A new rule requires a candidate who has won nomination in the primary election to designate the 20-day postelection report as a final report, and a proposed amendment prohibits a candidate from filing a certified statement (Form A-1) in a future election when the candidate controls or retains more than \$2,400 in funds from the prior election. A similar amendment

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prohibits candidates participating in a joint candidates committee from filing a certified statement (Form A-2) when the candidates control or retain funds in excess of the Form A-2 reporting threshold.

According to Herrmann, new rules are proposed to provide guidelines for reporting occupation and employer information for contributions received from individuals, for reporting contributions received from out-of-state candidates and committees, and for acceptance of contributions from an estate. Proposed amendments clarify the definition of “independent expenditures” and the reporting requirements for such expenditures. Further proposed amendments set forth the statutory penalty provisions for receipt of an excessive contribution and for violations of political identification requirements.

A new rule is proposed to set forth the filing deadlines for the Personal Financial Disclosure Statement (Form PFD-1), which deadlines are based upon whether or not a gubernatorial or legislative candidate is nominated in a primary election or nominated by direct petition.

Among other amendments to the rules for publicly-financed gubernatorial candidates, a change is proposed to substitute a requirement to obtain invoices, rather than signed media affidavits, from radio and television stations for media time purchased with public matching funds by a publicly-financed gubernatorial campaign.

The proposed text will appear in the New Jersey Register on April 17, 2000. Copies of Commission's proposal may be obtained by calling the Commission at (609) 292-8700 or by visiting its website at [www.elec.state.nj.us](http://www.elec.state.nj.us) after April 20, 2000.

The Commission will conduct a **public hearing** to elicit public comment concerning the proposal on Monday, May 15, 2000, at 11:15 a.m. at:

Election Law Enforcement Commission  
Edward J. Farrell Memorial Conference Room  
28 West State Street, 12th Floor  
Trenton, New Jersey

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The Commission invites participation in this hearing and requests that any testimony be limited to no more than ten minutes. Please contact Elbia Zepetelli by Wednesday, May 10, 2000, at (609) 292-8700 to reserve time to speak.

The Commission welcomes written comments concerning the proposal. Submit written comments by May 17, 2000 to:

Gregory E. Nagy, Legal Director  
Election Law Enforcement Commission  
P.O. Box 185  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0185

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