



NEWS RELEASE

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P.O. Box 185
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0185

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

FOR RELEASE:

June 18, 2008

PRESS ADVISORY

Executive Director Frederick M. Herrmann announced today that the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission is proposing new rules and amendments concerning the public financing of primary and general elections for the office of Governor.

According to Herrmann, among other provisions, the proposed new rules and amendments:

- Allow the use of personal funds by non-publicly financed candidates to meet all or part of the threshold qualifying amount of contributions to qualify for participation in debates;
- Prohibit loan repayment by non-publicly financed candidates to meet any part of the threshold qualifying amount of expenditures to qualify for participation in debates;
- Require notification by a Gubernatorial debate sponsor to the Commission of changes in debate plans and Commission approval of such changes;
- Provide that the Commission shall consider in a subsequent debate sponsorship application whether or not in a previous gubernatorial election, a sponsor applicant had made and notified the Commission of changes and received approval of such changes;
- Remove obsolete references to photocopies;
- Conform the language of N.J.A.C. 19:25-16.19(d) to parallel N.J.A.C. 19:25-15.18(d);
- Correct a typographical error in N.J.A.C. 19:25-15.49(a)2; and
- Restructure N.J.A.C. 19:25-15.17 and N.J.A.C. 19:25-16.18 to provide clarity.

- more -

The proposed new rules and amendments appeared in the New Jersey Register on June 16, 2008, and are currently available on the Commission's website at www.elec.state.nj.us. Copies of the Commission's proposal may also be obtained by calling the Commission at (609) 292-8700.

The Commission will conduct a hearing to elicit public comment concerning the proposal on **Tuesday, July 15, 2008** 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

The Commission invites participation in this hearing and requests that any testimony be limited to no more than ten minutes. Persons wishing to testify at the **July 15, 2008** hearing are requested to reserve time to speak by contacting Administrative Assistant Elbia L. Zeppetelli at (609) 292-8700 no later than Friday, July 11, 2008.

Submit written comments by August 15, 2008 to:

Michelle R. Levy, Associate Legal Director
Election Law Enforcement Commission
P. O. Box 185
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0185

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