

NEW JERSEY ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

MINUTES - November 9, 1976 Meeting

PRESENT

Frank P. Reiche, Chairman
Sidney Goldmann, Vice Chairman
Archibald S. Alexander, Member
Lewis B. Thurston, III, Executive Director
Edward J. Farrell, Legal Counsel
Herbert Alexander, Consultant

ABSENT

Josephine S. Margetts, Member

The meeting convened at 10:00 a.m. at the offices of the Chairman (Smith, Stratton, Wise, and Heher, Esqs., 1 Palmer Square, Princeton, N.J.)

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Law, P. L. 1975, c.231, annual notice of the meetings of the Commission, as amended, was filed with the Secretary of State's office, copies posted in the State House Annex, copies were mailed to the Newark Star Ledger and the Philadelphia Bulletin and the entire State House Press Corps.

1. Public Financing of Gubernatorial General Elections

The sole purpose of this meeting was to begin an intensive discussion of the statute which provides for public financing of gubernatorial general elections beginning in 1977 which will lead ultimately to a draft of Commission regulations to implement this statute.

The Commission reviewed the statute on a section-by-section basis. The effect of the recent United States Supreme Court decision in Buckley v. Valeo on the New Jersey statute was discussed.

Among the major topics of discussion were independent expenditures, the \$600 individual contributions limit, the overall expenditure limit, the contemplated roles of the state, county and municipal political party committees and political committees and the anticipated compliance cost for candidates. Much of the discussion centered on Section 29 of the Act and specifically the provisions thereof in regard to the activities of state, county and municipal political party committees as well as the \$600 contribution limit.

After a very extensive discussion, the Commission agreed that considerable additional time by the Commission will be required in developing a set of regulations to implement this statute.

2. Adjournment - The Commission adjourned at approximately 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lewis B. Thurston III
LEWIS B. THURSTON, III
Executive Director