



August 1, 1978

Mr. William Parker
Uniserv Director
Michigan Education Association
3133 Union Lake Rd.
Union Lake, Michigan 48085

Dear Mr. Parker:

This is in response to your letter concerning the Campaign Finance Act ("the Act"), P.A. 388 of 1976, as amended.

Your question is posed with reference to language which appeared in the April, 1978, volume of CFR Bulletin. The relevant language provided:

"To qualify for a reporting waiver a committee must (1) note on its original or amended statement of organization, item 10, that it does not expect to receive or spend more than \$500 in a single election, and (2) the committee must not, in fact, receive or spend more than that amount in the election." (Emphasis supplied)

You indicate an education committee supported one candidate for a seat on the board of one school district, and two candidates for two seats on another local board of education. Contributions to each candidate were less than \$500.00, although contributions received by the education committee exceeded \$500.00. All candidates sought election at the annual school elections held on the second Monday in June.

You ask whether the candidacies constituted three separate elections or a single election?

The language in the CFR Bulletin is an interpretation of Section 24(4) of the Act (MCLA § 169.224) which states:

"When filing a statement of organization a committee may indicate in a sworn statement that the committee does not expect for each election to receive an amount in excess of \$500 or exceed an amount in excess of \$500." (Emphasis supplied)

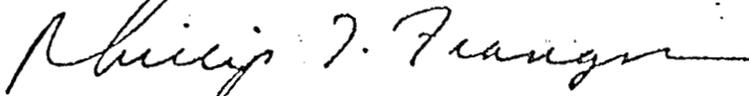
"Election" is defined in Section 5(1) (MCLA § 169.205) as a primary, general, special, or millage election held in this state or a convention or caucus of a political party held in this state to nominate a candidate.

Mr. William Parker
Page Two

If a committee desires to qualify for the "reporting waiver," the committee may support or oppose as many campaigns or candidates as it wishes, so long as it does not exceed \$500 in contributions or expenditures for a particular election as defined in the Act. In your cited example, all of the candidates supported by the education committee would be within a "single election."

This response may be considered informational only and not as constituting a declaratory ruling.

Very truly yours,



Phillip T. Frangos, Director
Office of Hearings and Legislation

PTF:pk