

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF STATE

RICHARD H. AUSTIN

SECRETARY OF STATE

STATE TREASURY BUILDING



LANSING  
MICHIGAN 48918

July 7, 1978

Honorable Dana Wilson  
State Representative  
State Capitol  
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Dear Representative Wilson:

This is in response to your request concerning the applicability of the identification requirements of the Campaign Finance Act ("the Act"), P.A. 388 of 1976, as amended, to 12-inch wooden rulers.

You state you are planning to use 12-inch wooden rulers as a novelty item in your primary election campaign. Further, you indicate it would be extremely difficult to put an identification on the ruler and higher costs would be incurred.

You ask whether rulers may be exempted from the identification requirements of Section 47 (MCLA § 169.247), and Rule 169.36 of the rules promulgated to implement the Act.

Section 47 states the name and address of the person paying for printed material referring to an election, candidate, or ballot question must include the name and address of the person paying for the matter. Rule 36 states buttons, balloons, a similar campaign items, the size of which makes it unreasonable to add an identification, are exempted from those requirements.

The Department finds it would be unreasonable to demand the identification requirements on a 12-inch wooden ruler. Consequently, you need not print an identification on the wooden rulers in question.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard H. Austin".

Richard H. Austin  
Secretary of State

RHA:pk