



California Fair Political Practices Commission

July 14, 1988

Eva S. Bates
Treasurer, Friends of Harriet Ross
1333 Jones Street (603)
San Francisco, CA 94109

Re: Your Request for Advice
Our File No. A-88-248

Dear Ms. Bates:

You have requested advice concerning your campaign disclosure obligations under provisions of the Political Reform Act (the "Act").^{1/}

QUESTION

May a candidate for supervisor use the name "Friends of ..." for her campaign committee?

CONCLUSION

The Act does not require nor prohibit the use of any particular name for a candidate's campaign committee.

FACTS

Harriet Ross, candidate for supervisor in the City and County of San Francisco, has a registered campaign committee which uses "Friends of ..." as part of the committee name.

^{1/}Government Code Sections 81000-91015. All statutory references are to the Government Code unless otherwise indicated. Commission regulations appear at 2 California Code of Regulations Section 18000, et seq. All references to regulations are to Title 2, Division 6 of the California Code of Regulations.

ANALYSIS

When a candidate for public office forms a campaign committee to receive contributions and to make expenditures on behalf of the candidate, then a statement of organization must be filed with the Secretary of State. (Sections 82013(a) and 84101.) The statement of organization must contain the name of the committee. (Section 84102(a).) However, there are no provisions in the Act which specify what name a candidate's committee shall use. Therefore, any name is permitted under the Act.

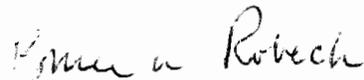
San Francisco has adopted a campaign disclosure ordinance which applies to elections for that jurisdiction. (see Section 81013.) "Friends" committees have been interpreted to have special meaning under the requirements of the San Francisco campaign disclosure ordinance. The Commission does not interpret the meaning of a local ordinance, so you should consult with officials in San Francisco for information about their campaign disclosure requirements.

In summary, the name of a candidate's campaign committee is not specified by the Act. If a particular name, such as "Friends of ...", has a special meaning under the provisions of a local jurisdiction's campaign disclosure ordinance, officials in the relevant jurisdiction should be contacted for interpretations of their requirements.

If you have further questions regarding this advice, please contact me at (916) 322-5662.

Sincerely,

Diane M. Griffiths
General Counsel



By: Bruce W. Robeck
Political Reform Consultant

DMG:BWR:kmt

FRIENDS OF

HARRIET ROSS

JUN 28 2 43 PM 88

June 27, 1988

Fair Political Practices Commission
428 V Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Sir:

No. 10. 880125

Harriet Ross is a candidate for
Supervisor of San Francisco. Her funds
in Friends of Harriet Ross is solely for
the purpose of her election to this
office. My question is regarding this
name as it is my understanding that
"Friends of - -" has a different connotation,
however, her papers were filed under this
name for the exclusive purpose of election
to this office. Should the name of the campaign
be changed?

Sincerely,

Joe A. Bates, Treasurer.



California Fair Political Practices Commission

June 29, 1988

Eve S. Bates
Friends of Harriet Ross
1333 Jones Street (603)
San Francisco, CA 94109

Re: 88-248

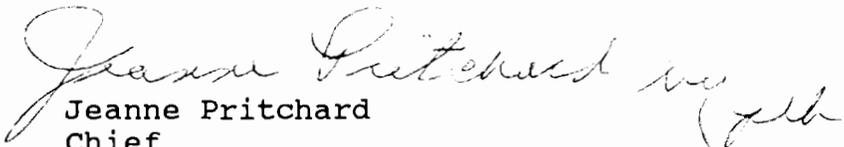
Dear Ms. Bates:

Your letter requesting advice under the Political Reform Act was received on June 28, 1988 by the Fair Political Practices Commission. If you have any questions about your advice request, you may contact me directly at (916) 322-5662.

We try to answer all advice requests promptly. Therefore, unless your request poses particularly complex legal questions, or more information is needed, you should expect a response within 21 working days if your request seeks formal written advice. If more information is needed, the person assigned to prepare a response to your request will contact you shortly to advise you as to the information needed. If your request is for informal assistance, we will answer it as quickly as we can. (See Commission Regulation 18329 (2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sec. 18329).)

You also should be aware that your letter and our response are public records which may be disclosed to the public upon receipt of a proper request for disclosure.

Very truly yours,


Jeanne Pritchard
Chief
Technical Assistance and Analysis
Division

JP:plh

FRIENDS OF

HARRIET ROSS

JUN 28 2 43 PM '88

June 27, 1988

Fair Political Practice Commission
428 V Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Sir:

No. LD. 880125

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Sincerely,

Loa S. Bates, Treasurer.