



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION
1102 Q Street • Suite 3050 • Sacramento, CA 95811

November 19, 2024

Michael Huang
Michael J. Huang for California State Senate 2022



Via email: [REDACTED]

Warning Letter re: FPPC Case No. 2023-00222; Michael J. Huang for California State Senate 2022, and Michael Huang

Dear Respondents:

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the “Act”).¹ As you are aware, the Enforcement Division received a sworn complaint related to certain text message advertisements sent by the committee Michael J. Huang for California State Senate 2022. The Enforcement Division has completed its review of the matter and found that you failed to include the proper disclaimer on a text message advertisement disseminated in advance of the June 7, 2022 Primary Election.

The Act requires text message advertisements paid for by a candidate-controlled committee to include the words “Paid for by” or “With” followed by the name of the candidate, followed by the word “For,” and followed by the name of the elective office sought.²

You violated the Act by sending a text message advertisement that did not contain the required disclaimer language. However, for the following reasons, the Enforcement Division has decided to close this case with this warning letter rather than a fine: the relevant text message advertisement included a hyperlink to your campaign website, which contained a “Paid for by” disclaimer; your candidacy was unsuccessful; your committee has since terminated; and you have no prior history of violating the Act.

This letter serves as a written warning. The information in this matter will be retained and may be considered should an enforcement action become necessary based on newly discovered information or future conduct. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act in the future will result in monetary penalties of up to \$5,000 for each violation.

¹ The Political Reform Act is contained in Government Code sections 81000 through 91014, and all statutory references are to this code. The regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission are contained in Sections 18110 through 18997 of Title 2 of the California Code of Regulations, and all regulatory references are to this source.

² Section 84504.7.

A warning letter is an Enforcement Division case resolution without administrative prosecution or fine. The Commission has adopted Regulations 18360.1 and 18360.2 to authorize the Enforcement Division to issue warning letters to conclude cases in specified circumstances. However, the warning letter resolution does not provide you with the opportunity for a probable cause hearing or hearing before an Administrative Law Judge or the Commission. If you wish to avail yourself of these proceedings by requesting that your case proceed with prosecution rather than a warning, please notify us within ten (10) days from the date of this letter. Upon this notification, the Enforcement Division will rescind this warning letter and proceed with administrative prosecution of this case. If we do not receive such notification, this warning letter will be posted on the Commission's website ten (10) days from the date of this letter.

Please feel free to contact me at cburton@fppc.ca.gov or (279) 237-3769 with any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Christopher B. Burton

Christopher B. Burton
Assistant Chief of Enforcement
Fair Political Practices Commission