

*Gen. Counsel*  
84307

# State of California



# Fair Political Practices Commission

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Technical Assistance/Administration	•••	Executive/Legal	•••	Enforcement	•••	Conflict of Interest
(916) 322-5660		322-5901		322-6441		322-6444

June 13, 1980

Assemblyman Art Agnos  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

*A-80-118*

Dear Assemblyman Agnos:

Thank you for your letter of June 12, 1980, in which you ask whether your campaign committee can make expenditures for your wife's travel expenses to Greece on a trip accompanying you. You have been invited by the Greek Government to visit Greece as its guest for ten days.

The Political Reform Act as amended does not restrict the use of campaign expenditures in any manner, provided that the expenditures are properly reported on the campaign statement.

AB 1168 (McVittie), no longer alive, would have required that campaign funds be only used for campaign or officeholder related purposes. However, nothing in that bill would have prohibited the use of campaign funds by your wife for the trips you described. Such expenditures would have been considered officeholder related expenses.

Because we felt that the McVittie bill was a reasonable attempt at prohibiting the activity that concerns all of us who want to restore faith in the governmental system, we expect to have the bill re-introduced next year. I would be interested in your comments on the approach we should take to ensure passage.

Please call on me at 2-6441 if you have any further questions or comments.

Have a good trip.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Stern  
General Counsel

RMS:nc

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# Assembly California Legislature

20112

**ART AGNOS**  
ASSEMBLYMAN, SIXTEENTH DISTRICT  
**DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS SECRETARY**

June 12, 1980

Mr. Robert Stern  
General Counsel  
Fair Political Practices Commission  
Post Office Box 807  
Sacramento, California 95804

Dear Bob:

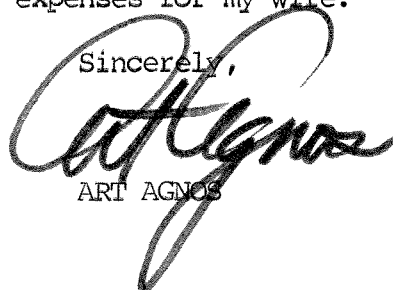
I would be most grateful if you will confirm in writing our telephone conversation of last week in which you answered my question about the propriety and legality of using campaign funds to help finance the travel of my wife with me on a trip to Greece in July, 1980.

As I stated, I have been extended an official invitation of the Greek government to visit Greece as their guest for ten days beginning July 26. The Greek government will underwrite all of my expenses for this trip to learn more about the problems of Greece as they relate to the United States.

However, the participation and attendance of my wife would be extremely valuable but impossible for the Greek government to underwrite.

Since I cannot afford to pay for it with personal funds, I am seeking your official guidance on the propriety and legality of using my campaign funds to help underwrite the travel expenses for my wife.

Sincerely,



ART AGNOS

AA:deb

82002

State of California

# Memorandum

To : File

Date : June 12, 1980

From : **FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION**  
Robert M. Stern *Y*

Subject: Section 82002

The term "rate-making" does not include appearances before the State Board of Equalization by a public utility which is challenging the board's determination of the assessed valuation of its property.

RMS:nc