



California Fair Political Practices Commission

June 17, 1993

Besty Starbuck
6839 Oleander Avenue
Highland, CA 92346

Re: Your Request For Confirmation
Of Telephone Advice
Our File No. I-93-198

Dear Ms. Starbuck:

You have requested confirmation of telephone advice provided to you concerning the lobbying and campaign disclosure provisions of the Political Reform Act (the "Act").^{1/} Because your questions are general inquiries, we are treating your letter as a request for informal assistance pursuant to Regulation 18329(c).^{2/}

QUESTIONS

Would a group of individuals who produce a mailing to urge others to write to the Board of Supervisors regarding an open space issue incur disclosure obligations under the Act's lobbying or campaign disclosure provisions?

CONCLUSION

The lobbying and campaign disclosure provisions of the Political Reform Act do not apply to a group of citizens trying to influence a decision by the Board of Supervisors.

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.

2/ Informal assistance does not provide the requestor with the immunity provided by an opinion or formal written advice. (Section 83114; Regulation 18329(c)(3).)

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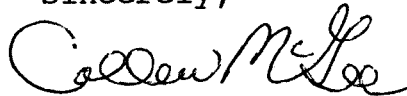
ANALYSIS

The Act's lobbying provisions apply only to individuals and organizations that attempt to influence legislative or administrative action at the state level. (Sections 82002 and 82037.)

With regard to the Act's campaign provisions, disclosure is required by individuals and organizations that receive contributions or make expenditures for the purpose of influencing or attempting to influence the voters for or against the nomination or election of a candidate or candidates, or the qualification or passage of any measure. (Sections 82013, 82015, 82025; Regulation Sections 18215, 18225.) Payments for a mailing urging citizens to communicate with the Board of Supervisors are not reportable expenditures under the campaign disclosure provisions of the Act.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact me at (916) 322-5662.

Sincerely,



Colleen McGee
Political Reform Consultant
Technical Assistance Division