STATE OF NEW JERSEY ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

NATIONAL STATE BANK BLDG. SUITE 1114

(609) 292 8700

June 20, 1980

Josephine S. Margetts TRENTON, N. J. 08605

Dilly. C_{ij}

LEWIS B. THURSTON, III

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> The New Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act, Chapter 83, Laws of 1973 as Amended and Supplemented ("the Act") Your letter dated April 10, 1980 Opinion #0-20-80

Dear Mr. Dineen:

Your letter dated April 10, 1980, to the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission ("the Commission"), including a request for advisory opinion, has been forwarded to me for reply.

Nothing in the Act prohibits the establish ent and administration or solicitation of contributions to colitical action committees, and N.J.A.C. 19:25-15.39 sets worth the reporting requirements with respect to a political action committee. In New Jersey there is no general prohibition upon corporate contributions, but certain specified entities such as banks, insurance companies, regulated industries and casino interests are prohibited from making certain political contributions. See N.J.S.A. 19:34-32, 19:34-45, 5:12-138.

The Commission is created by Section 5 of the Act and its authority, including the authority to issue legal opinions, is limited by the Act. Authority respecting Title 19 (other than the Act) rests with the Attorney General. Accordingly, we can express no opinion with respect to the applicability, if any, of N.J.S.A. 19:34-45 to activities of your company, or with respect to whether the establishment, administration or solicitation of contributions to a separate segregated fund, or other activities related to such fund, as described in your letter, would constitute contributions in contravention of N.J.S.A. 19:34-45 or of any other law of the State of New Jersey.

Sidney Goldmann

Chairman

Daniel T. Dineen, Esq.

We are enclosing a copy of N.J.S.A. 19:34-45, and of Formal Opinion 14-1979 of the Attorney General of New Jersey and related correspondence, dealing with one aspect of the question.

Yours very truly,

Edw J Farrell
Edward J. Farrell

General Legal Counsel

EJF:no

Enclosures

N.J.S.A. 19:34-45

Ltr. Midlantic Bank to Commission dated March 21, 1977

Ltr. of Commission to Midlantic Bank dated May 21, 1977

Ltr. of Commission to Theodore Winard, Esq., Assistant Atty. Gen. dated July 14, 1977

Formal Opinion No. 14 of Attorney General of New Jersey dated July 31, 1979