



NEWS RELEASE

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PRESS ADVISORY

Attached is a resolution sent today to Governor Thomas H. Kean by the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission.

The purpose of the resolution is to request that the Governor declare the existence of an emergency involving imminent peril to the distribution of public money. The declaration of an emergency would permit adoption by the Commission of a regulation delaying the first submission date for public matching funds from January 3 to January 23, 1989. The delay will permit implementation of new public financing legislation should action be taken by the Legislature on January 12, 1989.

The resolution also requests that the Governor lift the recently-imposed hiring freeze to permit hiring of remaining public financing staff.

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State of New Jersey

ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

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December 20, 1988

Resolution of the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission

WHEREAS, Commission Regulations adopted pursuant to the New Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act have established January 3, 1989 as the first date upon which a Gubernatorial Primary Election candidate may make application to the Commission for public matching funds; and,

WHEREAS, Legislation is currently under consideration in the New Jersey State Senate and General Assembly which would alter the various thresholds including the qualification threshold for gubernatorial primary election candidates seeking public matching funds and which may be enacted on January 12, 1989; and,

WHEREAS,

Proper and efficient administration of the Gubernatorial Public Financing Program requires that uniform procedures for public matching fund submissions be applied to all candidates in order to safeguard the distribution of public matching funds; and,

WHEREAS,

The Administrative Procedures Act provides at N.J.S.A. 52:-14B-4(c) for emergency adoption of rules by State agencies where there is imminent peril to the public welfare; and,

WHEREAS,

The Commission believes the responsibility inherent in distribution of public moneys to gubernatorial candidates creates a situation in which there is imminent peril to the public welfare; and,

WHEREAS,

The impact of the recently-imposed hiring freeze has left the staff of the 1989 Public Financing Program at a deficit of one analyst and three data entry persons; and,

WHEREAS,

The understaffing of the Public Financing Program will seriously impair the close scrutiny of candidates' public fund submissions which safeguards the distribution of public money; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, The New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission

unanimously requests that the Governor declare the existence of imminent peril to the Public Financing Program to justify emergency rulemaking procedures to permit the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission to adopt January 23, 1989 as the first date for submission of applications for public matching funds for the 1989 primary election; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Commission requests that the recently-imposed hiring freeze be lifted as applied to the Commission's 1989 Public Financing staff to permit hiring into the four remaining positions necessary to the operation of the Public Financing Program.