

I Exercise My Freedom Of Expression, and Free Speech, Threw My Bill
Of
Rights
and My Constitution of The Republic Of The United States:

The Congress of the United States House of Representatives:
The Congress of the United States House of The Senate:
Date: March 4, 1999

Honorable Representatives:
Honorable Senators:

Edited by Mr. D'Alessandro:

NAB is one of the most effective lobbying organizations in Washington,
thanks to its direct and Un-Ethical lobbying involvement with lawmakers.

In recent years, NAB has won some significant battles in Congress,
notably with the Help Of Congressman Billy Tauzin of Louisiana, and the
Contributions of Several Hundred Thousands of Dollars, Known as Soft
Money Which is not Reconized by the Federal Ethics Committee:

Attempting to stop the creation of LPFM Broadcast Service, as Proposed
By The FCC in NPRM Docket MM-99-25, Consequently to gain
Insidiously and By Treachery, to Deprive those Americans who Seek
Free Enterprise, and Their Constitutional Rights to Own and Operate a
LPFM Community Broadcast Service, As Proposed By NPRM by the
Federal Communications Commission.
=95 Passage of the 1992 Cable Act and the 1996 Telecommunications
Reform Act =95 Defeating attempts to create new spectrum user fees
=95 Passage of legislation easing the use of auto lease ads on radio
=95 Successfully blocking provisions in campaign reform legislation that
would mandate free or further discounted time for political candidates
=95 Defeating attempts to limit the tax deductibility of alcohol
advertising
=95 Preventing new performance rights from being applied to radio stations =

saving millions in new royalties =95 Fighting for the spectrum TV
broadcasters will need for the transition to digital television

Your membership in NAB will ensure you have total access and Control
of the American Publics Airways, and to the latest information on issues
in
Washington that will affect your Wallet. Make NAB membership a part of
your Corrupt government activities.

As NAB President Edward Fritts told members in 1995: "No one has more
sway with Members of Congress than the local broadcaster." HOW TO
SHUT DOWN THE SOFT MONEY LAUNDROMAT

Congress must ban soft money now before it overwhelms our campaign
finance laws and our political process. Ending the soft money system
requires more than changing the labels put on money. It is not

acceptable
to impose so-called "limits" on soft money which would simply continue
to
allow soft money to flow into federal campaigns under a new name. The
clear lines walling off corporate and union treasury money from
political
campaigns should not be breached.

Instead, a real ban on soft money must have three components:

=95The national political parties and their congressional campaign
committees
should be prohibited from soliciting or receiving any money that does
not
comply with federal law. =95Federal candidates and officeholders should be

prohibited from raising, soliciting or directing any money that does not
comply with federal law. =95State parties should be required to spend only

money permitted under federal law on any federal election activities.

The last point is of critical importance to an effective soft money ban.
The
soft money system cannot be banned at the national level and left to
thrive
at the state level, for doing so will simply leave the same abuses in
place,
just shifted down one level.

If state parties are left free to spend soft money on activities which
benefit
federal candidates, they will become the repositories of soft money and
allow wealthy contributors, as well as corporate and union donors, to
continue to give money to influence federal campaigns, and in return to get
credit with the federal candidates they benefit. The effect will be that
the
soft money system we have today will be substantially left in place.

To answer the worn-out defense of the corrupt system, ending soft money
is clearly constitutional. A letter released by the Brennan Center for
Justice
signed by 126 constitutional scholars stated that "Congress clearly
possesses power to close the soft money loophole by restricting the
source
and size of contributions to political parties, just as it does for
contributions to candidates, for use in connection with federal
elections."
The Supreme Court consistently has upheld contribution limits - to
parties
and multi-candidate PACs, as well as to candidates - as justified to
prevent

corruption or the appearance of corruption. Soft money donations clearly meet the Court's test: they are contributions which create corruption and the appearance of corruption.

It is perhaps not possible to address all the problems in the campaign finance system at once, but Common Cause's ongoing investigation has clearly illuminated the core problem of soft money. That problem can be addressed. Soft money can be banned. We know how to do it, and we know it can be done constitutionally. Taking action to end the corrupt soft money system will be a enormous step to restoring public respect and honor for this institution and for our democracy

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