

Low Power FM Broadcasting

The Low Power FM Petition for Rulemaking  
FCC RM-9242

LPFM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking FCC Community Broadcast  
Service, For Woman, Blacks, and Minorities!

MM Docket 99-25

APPROVE LPFM SERVICE!!!!!!

Dear Honorable Senators and Congressman:

Dear Honorable Chairman Kennard FCC:

WHY IS THIS FAT CAT "Ed Fritz" SMILING?

NAB Opens Mouth, Purses Fall Out Loaded With Money!

Approve LPFM Broadcast Community Service FCC Docket

MM-99-25

#### IT WAS A BILLION-DOLLAR-PLUS ELECTION

The 1998 elections hold a lot of promise for special interest fat  
cats  
one of those "FAT CATS IS ED FRITZ OF THE NAB" because they again poured

record-setting amounts into politicians' campaigns and otherwise  
spent  
lavishly to influence the  
outcome. With all the private money flowing into campaign coffers,  
contributors who are  
trying to buy influence and favors will have that much more say when  
it  
comes time to lobby  
for their vested interests and corporate welfare. The preliminary  
totals are shown below. Keep  
in mind that money earned in the final pre-election fundraising  
blitz  
doesn't yet show up  
here=85. And it's already more than \$1 billion.

#### CONTRIBUTIONS TO CANDIDATES\*

Congressional candidates in general election:	\$571.8 million
Primary losers, special elections:	\$64.7 million
Total	\$636.5 million (1/1/97 =96 10/14/98)

CONTRIBUTIONS TO NATIONAL PARTY COMMITTEES =96 HARD MONEY\*

Democratic Party national committees:	\$106.1 million
Republican Party national committees:	\$183 million
Total	\$289.1 million (1/1/97 - 10/14/98)

SOFT MONEY\*

Democratic Party national committees:	\$78.8 million
Republican Party national committees:	\$93.7 million
Total	\$172.5 million (1/1/97 =96 10/14/98)

ISSUE ADVERTISING\*\*

Issue ads have become a way to circumvent campaign finance laws. They are supposedly used to promote a group's stand on issues, but many are, in fact, thinly disguised electoral ads. They are a relatively new and unregulated form of election advertising. There is no centralized reporting or firm accounting on them. According to news reports and studies by Annenburg Public Policy Center, the Republican Party committees ran about \$34 million worth of issue ads in this year's elections; the Democrats, some \$15 million (these are included in total below). Beyond that, business, labor, and other groups (e.g., environmental, pro-life, etc.) have also sponsored issue ads in this election cycle. The Annenburg Center estimates that the total spent on issue ads may be as high as \$345 million in this election cycle; that's both for electoral campaigns and lobbying efforts such as the one staged by the tobacco industry to stop legislation they didn't want. As we do not yet have precise figures, we will make a conservative estimate for the election-related issue ads, based on the Annenburg Center data.

Estimated total

\$75 million (1997-98)

INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURES\*

Like issue advertising, independent expenditures represent money spent by organizations that

do not have official, direct ties to a candidate. Unlike issue ads, these ads can exhort people to vote for or vote against a specific candidate; also, these expenditures must be reported to the Federal Election Commission.  
Estimated total

11/1/98)

\$6.8 million (1/1/97 -

GRAND TOTAL: \$1.2 billion

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