

**[5/22/78-Not Submitted] [CF, O/A 548]**

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
May 22, 1978

Stu Eizenstat

The attached is forwarded to you for  
appropriate handling.

Rick Hutcheson

cc: Bob Lipshutz  
Jim McIntyre

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

orig. to stn for approp.  
handling

cc Lipshutz  
OMB

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

5/22/78

TO:

Rick Hatcherson

For Your Information: \_\_\_\_\_

For Appropriate Handling:  \_\_\_\_\_

RDZ.  
Robert D. Linder



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

1325 K STREET N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RL

May 18, 1978

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

The Commission has asked me to respond to your letter regarding Executive Order 12044 directing Executive Agencies to adopt procedures to improve existing and future regulations. In your letter, you asked the Commission, as an independent agency, to initiate its own program to incorporate the provisions of Executive Order 12044 and to report its progress on such efforts to you and the Congress by June 30, 1978.

The policy of the Executive Order is to insure that regulations are as simple and clear as possible, that they achieve legislative goals effectively and efficiently, and that the regulations do not impose unnecessary burdens on the economy, on individuals, on public organizations, or on State and local governments. The Commission has reviewed its regulatory process and is of the opinion that its current practices do achieve the stated objectives of the Executive Order.

The FEC is currently in the process of revising its regulations to clarify the language and to correct deficiencies which have become apparent during their use in the 1976 elections. The fact that the FEC regulations are subject to Congressional review should, in the opinion of the Commission, be sufficient to assure that the legislative goals are met. Finally, the reporting and recordkeeping requirements are imposed upon the candidates and committees by the Federal Election Campaign Act, not by the FEC regulations.

The Commission does not view its regulatory function as continually expanding. Once the regulations are revised, the Commission does not anticipate major regulatory activity absent, of course, significant changes in the Act.

Sincerely yours,

*Thomas E. Harris*

Thomas E. Harris  
Chairman