



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG
SELECT COMMITTEE ON STATE CONTRACT PRACTICES

August 12, 1974

Because statements by the Chair, made during the public portion of this Committee's meeting on August 7, 1974 were the subject of much discussion and, apparently, some misinterpretation, I would like to make it clear at this time that neither the Committee nor its Chairman is in any way "backing down" concerning demands for complete compliance with subpoenas duces tecum, which it has issued to state and county political committees and county boards of election.

Today the Committee will be asked to authorize subpoenas for the records of the Republican and Democratic county organizations in 14 additional counties:

Lackawana	Elk
Luzerne	Forest
Cameron	McKean
Centre	Potter
Clarion	Venango
Clearfield	Warren
Clinton	York

as well as the county boards of election in those counties. These subpoenas are the same in every respect and detail as the first 36 subpoenas issued by this Committee in the following counties on May 14, 1974:

Westmoreland	Philadelphia
Greene	Delaware
Mercer	Dauphin
Cambria	Fayette
Lycoming	Erie
Montgomery	Allegheny

They are the same, too, as those subsequently issued on June 10th to the Republican and Democratic State Committees, on June 27th in Butler and Monroe counties, on July 16th in Indiana county, and on August 7th in Blair and Montour counties.

So that the Chairman's position will not be misunderstood by members of the Committee, the press, the public, or most importantly, by any individual or organization whose records have been or will be the subject of subpoenas duces tecum from this Committee, all these parties should understand that the Chair expects each subpoena to be complied with fully on its face. The Chair is willing, as is the Committee, to extend an opportunity to individuals or organizations who have been the subject of a subpoena duces tecum from the Committee, to appear before it to explain either the terms of their compliance or the reasons for their non-

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compliance. The Chair is, in addition, willing to entertain explanations from such subpoenaed parties concerning any efforts that may have been made to edit information demanded by the subpoenas. If such editing was a part of an attempt by the subpoenaed parties to provide information concerning contributors who have contracts with the State, then the Chair, through Special Counsel to the Committee, will wish to question assertions made by the subpoenaed parties as to the manner in which they have edited the subpoenaed materials, the guidelines that have been used, and the information at their disposal on which they may have based their editing decisions.

The extension of such an opportunity to any subpoenaed party should not be misconstrued as, and is not, a decision by the Chairman to look with favor upon anything less than complete compliance with subpoenas, as to demands on their face.

The Chair, in addition, wishes to make it clear that this invitation is available to any subpoenaed party at any time the Committee is in session. The Chair wishes it understood, accordingly, that it is always prepared to entertain efforts by subpoenaed parties to purge themselves of any contempt with which they have been charged in conjunction with the provision of subpoenaed materials.

Patrick A. Gleason, Chairman
House of Representatives
Select Committee on State Contract Practices

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