

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTING





HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

September 17, 1974

SUBJECT: Campaign Finance Reporting  
TO: REPUBLICAN HOUSE MEMBERS  
FROM: Honorable Donald M. McCurdy

A recent opinion by the Election Bureau concerning the sale of raffle tickets by AFSCME has raised some serious questions on interpretation of present law in Pennsylvania regarding campaign financing and reporting. A copy of the opinion is enclosed for your information.

The memo supports the position taken by the Philadelphia Committee of 70 in the Rovner case. There is no definitive court decision. Although there is no definite court decision, the possibility exists that legislation could pass before election requiring pre-election reporting.

If you were unable to meet the requirements the bureau imposed in the AFSCME matter and if your local election bureau followed that interpretation of the law, it could be a source of embarrassment in your campaign.

In the absence of any definitive court decision, the solution to this problem is left to your sound judgment.

We take no legal position in the absence of a binding court interpretation on the correctness of the AFSCME interpretation. We though, however, we should bring this situation to your attention.



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA  
17120

SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

August 9, 1974

Mr. Edward J. Rodriguez, Treasurer  
AFSCME, AFL-CIO Political & Legislative Committee  
30 South Third Street  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101

Dear Ed:

We are in receipt of the account of receipts and expenditures filed with this office in accordance with the requirements of the Pennsylvania Election Code for AFSCME, AFL-CIO Political and Legislative Committee for the primary election on May 21, 1974.

After a review of this report, we find it to be incomplete and not in accordance with the provisions of the Pennsylvania Election Code; specifically, 25 P.S. 3227.

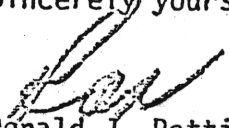
25 P.S. 3227(a) states, ". . . if the amount received or expended or liabilities incurred shall exceed the sum of one hundred fifty dollars, file a full, true and detailed account, subscribed and sworn to by him, setting forth each and every sum of money received, contributed or disbursed by him for primary or election expenses, the date of each receipt, contribution and disbursement, the name of the person from whom received or to whom paid, and the specific object or purpose for which the same was disbursed. . ."

25 P.S. 3227(c) states, "Every expense account filed under the provisions of this section shall be accompanied by vouchers for all sums expended amounting to more than ten (\$10) dollars. . ."

Your report fails to include a listing of each sum received and the name of the person from whom received. We do not construe these pertinent sections of the Election Code to permit a filing which reports gross receipts from the sale of tickets. Your report also was not accompanied by the required vouchers for the sums expended.

I sincerely appreciate your cooperation by making the necessary amendments to your account of receipts and expenditures.

Sincerely yours,

  
Ronald J. Pettine  
Deputy Secretary of State