

The original documents are located in Box 16, folder “Federal Election Campaign Act Amendments of 1976 - Correspondence with Businessmen” of the John Marsh Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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April 12, 1976

Dear Phil:

Many thanks for your recent letter together with attachments on the FEC.

In the event you have not done so, I have forwarded a copy of your letter and attachments to Mr. Philip Buchen, Counselor to the President, for his review.

Thank you for taking the time to express your views, and those of many Sears employees, on this matter.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

John O. Marsh, Jr.
Counselor to the President

Mr. Phillip M. Knox, Jr.
Vice President
Governmental Affairs
Sears, Roebuck and Co.
1211 Connecticut Avenue
Washington, D. C. 20036

dl



April 13, 1976

Dear Bill:

Many thanks for your recent note together
with the report on the FEC.

In the event you have not done so, I have
forwarded a copy to Phil Buchen.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

John O. Marsh, Jr.
Counsellor to the President

Mr. William G. Whyte
President
United States Steel
1625 K Street, Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20006

JOM/dl



May 4, 1976

Dear Dixie:

Many thanks for your recent note together
with attachment concerning the **FEC**.

Mr. Carter's remarks are most interesting
and I greatly appreciate your bringing them
to my attention.

I have taken the liberty of forwarding a
copy to other White House staff involved
in this.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

John O. Marsh, Jr.
Counsellor to the President

Mr. Hilton Davis
General Manager
Legislative Action Department
Chamber of Commerce
1615 H Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C. 20006

cc: Phil Buchen

dl



May 4, 1976

Dear Mr. Pannullo:

Many thanks for your recent communication concerning S. 3065, the **FEC** legislation.

I have taken the liberty of forwarding a copy of your correspondence to Mr. Philip Buchen, Counsel to the President, for his review.

I greatly appreciate your taking the time to give us the benefit of your views and suggestions.

Sincerely,

John O. Marsh, Jr.
Counsellor to the President

Mr. John Pannullo
Executive Director
National Utility Contractors
Association
815 15th Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C. 20005

dl

cc: Phil Buchen



May 5, 1976

Dear Mr. Roland:

Many thanks for your recent telegram concerning the FEC legislation.

I have taken the liberty of forwarding your telegram to Mr. Philip Bucher, Counselor to the President, for his review.

We greatly appreciate your taking the time to give us the benefit of your views and suggestions.

Sincerely,

John O. Marsh, Jr.
Counselor to the President

Mr. Robert A. Roland
President
National Paint and Coatings
Association
1500 Rhode Island Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20005

dl



May 5, 1976

Dear Mr. Moore:

Many thanks for your recent correspondence concerning the FEC legislation.

I have taken the liberty of forwarding a copy of your correspondence to Mr. Phillip Buchen, Counsel to the President, for his review.

We greatly appreciate your taking the time to give us the benefit of your views and suggestions on this important legislation.

Sincerely,

John O. Marsh, Jr.
Counsellor to the President

Mr. Michael R. Moore
Texas Retail Federation
1122 Colorado Street
Austin, Texas 78701

dl

cc: Phil Buchen



See Burian

May 5, 1976

Dear Mr. Burian:

Many thanks for the copy of your May 5
letter to the President regarding the
Federal Election Campaign Amendments.

Thank you for taking the time to apprise
me of your thoughts on this legislation.

With every good wish, I remain,

Sincerely,

John O. Marsh, Jr.
Counsellor to the President

Mr. Lawrence L. Burian
President
National Air Transportation
Associations
1156 Fifteenth Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20005
cb



See: Harris

May 5, 1976

Dear Mr. Harris:

Many thanks for the copy of your May 5 communication to the President regarding the Federal Election Campaign Amendments.

Thank you for taking the time to apprise me of your thoughts on this legislation.

With every good wish, I remain,

Sincerely,

John O. Marsh, Jr.
Counsellor to the President

Mr. Malcolm E. Harris
President
Distilled Spirits Council of the
United States
1300 Pennsylvania Building
Washington, D. C. 20004
cb



re: Boynton

May 5, 1976

Dear Mr. Boynton:

Many thanks for the copy of your May 4 letter regarding the Federal Election Campaign Amendments.

Thank you for taking the time to apprise me of your thoughts on this legislation.

With every good wish, I remain,

Sincerely,

John O. Marsh, Jr.
Counsellor to the President

Mr. Robert S. Boynton
National Lime Association
5010 Wisconsin Avenue
Washington, D. C. 20016
cb



May 5, 1976

Dear Mr. Gray:

Many thanks for your recent telegram concerning the FEC legislation.

I have taken the liberty of forwarding a copy of your telegram to Mr. Phillip Buchen, Counsel to the President, for his review.

We greatly appreciate your taking the time to give us the benefit of your views and suggestions.

Sincerely,

John O. Marsh, Jr.
Counsellor to the President

Mr. James A. Gray
Executive Vice President
National Machine Tool
Builders Association
7901 Westpark Drive
McLean, Virginia 22101

cc: Phil Buchen

dl





5/6

MEMO TO

John Marsh

SUBJECT

F41...

Copy of our request
for veto of election
law bill.

Dixie



FROM

HILTON DAVIS, GENERAL MANAGER
LEGISLATIVE ACTION DEPARTMENT
(202) 659-6140

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

May 6, 1976

RICHARD L. LESHER
PRESIDENT

1615 H STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20062
202/659-6207

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the National Chamber and its business and professional members across the country, I urge you to veto the Federal Election Campaign Act Amendments, S. 3065.

I have not seen our members so aroused about an issue since the construction site picketing bill. They are indignant, and rightfully so.

We are particularly offended that the bill is designed so blatantly to protect and enhance the financial role of unions in elections, while restricting the growth of business political committees that might otherwise come to balance the unions' influence.

That objective is clearly the sole reason for:

- restricting the solicitation of rank-and-file employees by corporate political action committees,
- sharply reducing the ceiling on individual contributions to a PAC,
- effectively limiting a corporation and all its subsidiaries and divisions to a single PAC, even if there is no common control or direction,
- permitting a company to allow solicitation of its officials by only one association PAC per year,
- circumventing present labor law so unions can now demand, for the first time, that companies collect political contributions from unionized employees by payroll deductions, and
- requiring that companies provide names and addresses of non-union employees to unions or third parties, for solicitation by union PACs.



If these new restrictions and requirements become law, thereby fostering the advantage already held by unions, we see little if any chance of any substantial improvement in the philosophical balance in Congress.

Perhaps the crowning insult to business is the bill's new restriction on "non-partisan" activities, such as those which encourage employees to register and vote. Many companies have been doing this for years, to encourage responsible citizenship. Now they would be told they can do so only if such activities are conducted with the joint sponsorship of some outside organization.

The Chamber also believes the bill unworthy of your signature for other reasons. It further erodes the independence of the Federal Election Commission by allowing Congress to veto not only complete FEC regulations, but mere sections of regulations. Additionally, in most instances, an advisory opinion could not be granted until the FEC had first issued a regulation that could survive the Congress. Such Congressional power over an agency is without precedent and mocks any description of the FEC as "independent."

The bill also undermines a major purpose of the FEC -- openness and disclosure -- by requiring anonymity of contributors of \$50 or less. This promotes the use of cash and clearly raises the probability of fraud.

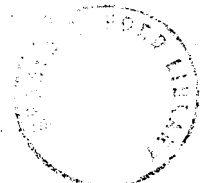
It is regrettable that Congress would not respond to the problem created by the Supreme Court decision with legislation authorizing a simple reconstitution of the FEC, as you initially suggested. But the delay is not your responsibility and should have no bearing on your decision.

The principles at stake in this issue are too great to be sacrificed merely to hasten the release of matching funds to Presidential candidates. To do so would have lasting adverse effects on our political processes -- and, at the same time, confirm the success of the strategy employed by the unions and their allies in this matter.

We urge you to veto S. 3065 -- and pledge our efforts to encourage Congress to sustain the veto.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Leshner



May 7, 1976

Dear Mr. Strauss:

Many thanks for your thoughtfulness in sending me a copy of your recent telegram to the President concerning the FEC legislation.

I greatly appreciate your taking the time to give us the benefit of your views and suggestions.

Sincerely,

John O. Marsh, Jr.
Counsellor to the President

Mr. R. W. Strauss
Manager
Washington Operations
Stewart-Warner Corporation
425 13th Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C. 20004

dl



May 7, 1976

Dear Mr. Crawford:

Many thanks for your thoughtfulness in sending me a copy of your recent telegram to the President concerning the FEC legislation.

I greatly appreciate your taking the time to give me the benefit of your views and suggestions.

Sincerely,

John O. Marsh, Jr.
Counsellor to the President

Mr. O. R. Crawford
Suite 110
9225 Katy Freeway
Houston, Texas 77024

dl



May 8, 1976

Dear Bob:

Many thanks for your recent letter concerning the **EEC** legislation.

I have forwarded a copy of your letter to Phil Buchen, Counsel to the President, for his review.

I greatly appreciate your taking the time to give us the benefit of your views.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

John O. Marsh, Jr.
Counsellor to the President

Mr. Robert F. Magill
Vice President
General Motors Corporation
General Motors Building
Detroit, Michigan 48202

cc: Phil Buchen

dl

