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March 27, 1978

Mr. Nicholas P. Tworischuk
Secretary/Treasurer
FRIENDS OF MARIE L. VILLANI
Apt. 421
425 Mount Prospect Avenue
Newark, New Jersey 07104

Re: The New Jersey Campaign Contributions and
Expenditures Reporting Act, Chapter 83, Laws
of 1973 as Amended and Supplemented ("the Act")
Your letter dated October 8, 1977
Opinion #(0-13-78)

Dear Mr. Tworischuk:

Your letter of October 8, 1977, to the New Jersey
Election Law Enforcement Commission ("the Commission"),
including a request for advisory opinion, has been for-
warded to me for reply.

I refer you to the Commission's earlier advisory opinion
regarding the Friends of Marie Villani, dated March 3, 1977,
wherein you were advised that, based on the facts set
forth in your letter, if Councilwoman Villani became a
candidate for re-election in 1978, your group would be
a political committee on her behalf, required to comply
with the reporting and other requirements of the Act.
The election reports required to be filed would have to
detail contributions and expenditures in accordance with
§16 of the Act, including an allocated portion of the
expenditures associated with the fund raising affair,
mentioned in your letter.

As long as the requirements of the Act with regard to
political committees are complied with, there would be no
restriction on your group making contributions to and expen-
ditures for the candidate.

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LAW ENFORCEMENT
COMMISSION

Mr. Nicholas P. Tworischuk

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In the Commission's earlier advisory opinion, reference was made to litigation involving the annual reporting requirement of political information organizations. The constitutionality of the Act has recently been upheld by the Appellate Division in Election Law Enforcement Commission v. State Chamber of Commerce, et al. This case is now on appeal before the New Jersey Supreme Court. As a result of the appeal, the Commission has extended the time for filing of annual reports for the year 1977 until December 31, 1978. A copy of the press release announcing this extension is enclosed herewith.

Yours very truly,

Edward J. Farrell
Legal Counsel

EJF:no

Enclosure