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Subject:	FEC Comment
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FEC Comment Submission (johnedwards.com)

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Comment: I am writing to comment on Draft Advisory Opinion 2007-31. I urge the Commission to reject Draft AO 2007-31, and permit individual credit card contributions made online through ActBlue to be matched under the Matching Fund Act.

As a supporter of public financing, I believe the Commission should be removing obstacles for presidential candidates to participate in the matching funds system. The Commission should be embracing new technologies and grassroots financing of presidential campaigns. Draft AO 2007-31, on the other hand, would have the Commission erect new barriers to participation in matching funds.

I understand that individuals' contributions through a presidential candidateâ€™s web site are readily matchable. Why should an online contribution through ActBlue be any less matchable? The draft advisory opinion barely addresses this question, much less provides an answer, and it should therefore be rejected by the Commission.

Sites like ActBlue only act as a credit card clearing house to make individual contributions easier, they do not advocate for candidates or act as a PAC. It is my initiative, the initiative of the individual small donor, that brings about any contribution through ActBlue. Please allow contributions through this site to be matched as individual contributions - it gives more impact to individual small donors as was the intent of campaign financing restrictions in the first place.

Thank you.