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

Linda Peacock

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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.

Thank you.

To this standard e-mail I would like to add the following comments:

Act Blue is NOT a PAC. Act Blue is basically a collection agency for the candidates. Just as if an individual donated money, directly to a campaign, the individual who donates through Act Blue, is registered as to the amount donated, their residence, etc., so any individual´s data is as traceable as if the individual donated directly to the campaign. So why even have a collection site such as Act Blue? Because, Act Blue, encourages LOCAL efforts to collect money from INDIVIDUALS, which is what the public fincing Matching Fund Act is ABOUT. If the FEC does not recognize funds collected via Act Blue, the FEC does NOT support public financing of campaigns. There is NO reason for the FEC NOT to recognize donations given via Act Blue, for matching funds. IF the FEC thinks there is a reason to disavow those donations, given by identifiable individuals, just because they were given via Act Blue, I would like to know the reasoning.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Yours truly,

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