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Date:	12/12/2007 03:28 PM

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.

Thank you.

Janet Myhre

PS - Having my identity and bank account information compromise, it is fundamentally important to me as a citizen of the United States to be able for me to exercise free speech rights to support and contribute to any candidate of my choosing. That choice MUST NOT BE LIMITED strictly on the basis of the individual platform.

This could not be a more important factor in providing a 21st century technology driven electronic solution not an antiquated 1930 system (personal checks). The level of identity theft and financial fraudulent activity has quadrupled in the last 15 years. Citizens much have the ability to contribute to the electoral process utilizing secure and trustworthy platforms. Actblue is just such a solution, and quite frankly since the Republicans do not have the same type of solution, then it is quite questionable as to the motive for excluded citizens contributions from matching funds.