From:	Patt, Joseph
To:	mdove@fec.gov
Subject:	Draft AO 2007-31
Date:	12/13/2007 08:39 AM

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to comment on Draft Advisory Opinion 2007-31, which I believe should be rejected.

The clear intent public finance law is to reduce the influence of wealthy special interests and other corrupting forces on our political system.

Disallowing the matching of low dollar contributions just because they were made through a payment process that doubles as a political organization runs contrary to the intent of the law.

In fact, if the FEC were to bar the matching of such funds, it would actually increase the relative importance of wealthy special interests and other corrupting forces on our political system.

Nothing in the draft advisory opinion speaks to this issue. Instead, it relies on a very narrow and technical reading of the rules and regulations of the FEC. Moreover, if the commission were block matching of these funds, the commission itself would appear to be actively influencing a current presidential campaign, weakening public confidence in the commission.

Therefore, 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.

Thank you.

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