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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.

There is no way that I (or a campaign) could have known that my contributions were ineligible to be matched. As this is a decision after the fact, the FEC should allow it. Then the laws should be updated to recognize newer technology and grassroots campaign techniques.

I would like to make the following two points: (1) The FEC allows credit card contributions made directly to a compaign to be matched; and (2) ActBlue is not a PAC in the usual sense of someone giving money to their corporate or union and allowing that organization to determine which candidate gets the aggregated contributions.

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.

Thank you.