

The Honorable Scott E. Thomas Chairman
Election Commission
999 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20463

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Re: Upcoming FEC Notice of Proposed Rulemaking governing political activity on the internet

Dear Chairman Thomas,

We are concerned about the **potential impact that Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly's decision in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia in Shays v. FEC, 337 F. Supp. 2d 28 (D.D.C. 2004) and the FEC's upcoming rulemaking process may have on political communication on the Internet.**

One area of great concern is the potential regulation of bloggers and other online journalists who distribute political news and commentary exclusively over the web. While paid political advertising on the Internet should remain subject to FEC rules and regulations, curtailing blogs and other online publications will dampen the impact of new voices in the political process and will do a disservice to the millions of voters who rely on the web for original, insightful political commentary.

Ordinary people, retired persons, and some of us on limited incomes rely on these sources of communication.

We need the uninterrupted availability of this resource, for which we pay, to be preserved.

Thank you,

*Georgia Mc Afee
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