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Public Comments on Definition of Federal Election Activity:=====

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General Comment: I believe the Federal Election Commission was right in clarifying the definition of Federal Election Activity. As a political science minor I have learned a lot about BCRA and I am very much in favor of regulating campaign finance in our country, specifically the donations. I agree that "voter identification and GOTV activities conducted exclusively through non-Federal elections and are therefore not FEA." These activities should not be regulated by the federal government if they are not campaigning for the federal government. The timing stipulation on this rule is thoroughly confusing, as it's not explained clearly from the beginning, but throughout the paper in pieces. I believe the FEC is right in clarifying the rule, yet the approach taken to clarify when activities and communications are in connection with a non-Federal election disturbs me in the implementation of the rule for the future. When it talks of taking a "tailored approach" and regulating specifically what communication can take place, this worries me because the government as a whole has never been very good at regulating or being a 'watch dog' over a policy (New section 100.24(a)(1)(iii)). While eventually the FEC might discover improper campaign communication it will most likely not be until much later, after the rules had been broken for some time. I.E. The phone lists only

being given to groups conducting municipality elections seems too specific and easily broken as the list can be passed down the party lines (especially if someone else paid for it in the party which is legal).

Something must be done to help the local parties out more in terms of allocating

the funding from the federal elections because without the mayor and the district

attorney we will not be able have the senators and the representatives since they

won't have a cohesive district to represent. Our local parties don't have the funding to provide for activities themselves.

Overall, I believe this rule is good for BCRA in regulating our elections and non-

federal elections, yet we must still try to actively encourage local elections to still

remain local, as was one of John McCain's goals in drafting BCRA.