

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

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EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE:
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1981

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FEC STUDY SHOWS INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURES TOP \$16 MILLION

WASHINGTON — Independent spending during the 1979-80 election cycle by PAC's, individuals, and other groups topped \$16 million, according to a new study released today by the Federal Election Commission.

Under federal election law, an "independent expenditure" is money spent to support or defeat a clearly identified candidate. Such an expenditure must be made without cooperation or consultation with the candidate or his/her campaign. Independent expenditures are not limited as are contributions.

A total of \$13.7 million was spent to influence the Presidential race. Most of that money - \$12.9 million - was spent promoting Presidential candidates. An additional \$.8 million was spent to defeat Presidential contenders. Only one-fifth of the \$13.7 million (\$2.7 million) was spent in the pre-nomination period. The rest of the money spent for and against Presidential candidates was expended during the general election.

Independent expenditures for and against House candidates totalled \$684,727. Spending to influence Senate races totalled \$1.7 million and most of it - \$1.3 million - was negative.

The new study shows that \$2.2 million of the \$16 million spent was directed to negative campaigns, advocating the defeat of 65 candidates. This negative spending represented only 14% of all money spent. However, in the case of Senate campaigns, negative spending amounted to 78% of all money spent on Senate races.

Independent expenditures by 33 individuals totalled \$1.2 million; 105 PAC's spent \$14.1 million; and 80 other groups spent \$.7 million.

In the 1976 Presidential election year, independent expenditures totalled \$2.0 million. Of that, \$1.6 million was spent on the Presidential races, with the rest split almost evenly between House and Senate races.

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[On the following pages is a list of the top spenders and the candidates for or against whom the most money was spent. A chart details how the \$16 million was divided among Senate, House, and Presidential candidates, and by party affiliation. It also provides subtotals for expenditures supporting candidates and for those opposing candidates.

The 1979-80 FEC Index of Independent Expenditures is available for \$5 from the Commission's Public Records Office, 1325 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20463. Questions concerning the indexes should be directed to the Press Office, (202) 523-4065, or toll-free (800) 424-9530.]

The following political committees reported spending the most money on independent expenditures:

1. Congressional Club	\$ 4,601,069
2. National Conservative Political Action Committee	\$ 3,307,962
3. Fund for a Conservative Majority	\$ 2,062,456
4. Americans for an Effective Presidency	\$ 1,270,208
5. Americans for Change	\$ 711,856
6. NRA Political Victory Fund	\$ 441,891
7. Christian Voice Moral Government Fund	\$ 406,199
8. 1980 Republican Presidential Campaign Committee	\$ 314,740
9. American Medical Political Action Committee	\$ 172,397
10. Gun Owners of America Campaign Committee	\$ 119,891

The following individuals spent the most money independently on behalf of or against candidates:

1. Cecil R. Haden	\$ 599,333
2. Stewart Rawlings Mott	\$ 110,179
3. Norman Lear	\$ 108,301
4. Richard M. DeVos	\$ 70,575
5. Jay Van Andel	\$ 68,433
6. Theo N. Law	\$ 66,230
7. David B. Melville	\$ 35,159
8. Henry C. Grover	\$ 29,076
9. Michael Rosen	\$ 25,940
10. Dwight G. Vedder	\$ 20,000

Candidates on whose behalf the most money was spent, or against whom the most money was spent were:

Presidential

Ronald Reagan - R	\$ 12,293,925	(For - \$12,246,057; Against - \$ 47,868)
Edward Kennedy - D	\$ 568,350	(For - \$ 77,189; Against - \$491,161)
Jimmy Carter - D	\$ 291,480	(For - \$ 45,869; Against - \$245,611)
John B. Connally - R	\$ 288,032	(For)
John B. Anderson - I	\$ 202,073	(For - \$ 199,438; Against - \$ 2,635)

Senate

Frank Church - D-ID	\$ 340,963	(For - \$ 1,945; Against - \$339,018)
John C. Culver - D-IA	\$ 246,197	(For - \$ 59,584; Against - \$186,613)
George McGovern - D-SD	\$ 225,597	(For - \$ 3,553; Against - \$222,044)
Alan Cranston - D-CA	\$ 194,324	(For - \$ 2,285; Against - \$192,039)
Birch Bayh - D-IN	\$ 181,750	(For - \$ 1,027; Against - \$180,723)
Thomas F. Eagleton - D-MO	\$ 124,704	(For - \$ 22,910; Against - \$101,794)

House

Robert W. Edgar - D-PA	\$ 39,212	(For - \$ 39,182; Against - \$ 30)
Jack M. Fields - R-TX	\$ 38,376	(For)
Carey Peck - D-CA	\$ 37,734	(For)
Harold S. Sawyer - R-MI	\$ 28,131	(For - \$ 14,219; Against - \$ 13,912)
Charles E. Grassley - R-IA	\$ 27,799	(For)
Harold Volkmer - D-MO	\$ 26,917	(For)
Robert F. Drinan - D-MA	\$ 23,147	(Against)
W.J. "Billy" Tauzin - D-LA	\$ 22,535	(For)

FEC PRESS OFFICE

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
 DETAILED INFORMATION ON INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURES
 1979-80

NOVEMBER 29, 1981

CANDIDATE TYPE	DEMOCRATS				REPUBLICANS				OTHERS				SUBTOTALS				GRAND TOTAL	#
	FOR	#	AGAINST	#	FOR	#	AGAINST	#	FOR	#	AGAINST	#	FOR	#	AGAINST	#		
HOUSE	\$ 190,615	91	\$ 38,023	32	\$ 410,478	205	\$ 45,132	6	\$ 479	1	\$ 0	0	\$ 601,572	297	\$ 83,155	38	\$ 684,727	321
SENATE	\$ 127,381	24	\$1,282,613	15	\$ 231,678	58	\$ 12,430	5	\$ 0	0	\$ 0	0	\$ 359,059	82	\$1,295,043	20	\$ 1,654,102	89
PRESIDENTIAL	\$ 123,058	2	\$ 736,796	3	\$12,537,522	3	\$ 65,040	2	\$271,978	7	\$11,050	2	\$12,932,558	12	\$ 817,886	7	\$13,745,444	15
TOTAL	\$ 441,054	117	\$2,057,432	50	\$13,179,678	266	\$ 122,602	13	\$272,457	8	\$11,050	2	\$13,893,189	391	\$2,191,084	65	\$16,084,273	425

*# indicates number of candidates.

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