

proposed rules would not increase costs of compliance and may decrease such costs.

List of Subjects

11 CFR Part 100

Elections.

11 CFR Part 104

Campaign funds, Political committees and parties, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, the Federal Election Commission proposes to amend Subchapter A of Chapter I of Title 11 of the Code of Federal Regulations as follows:

PART 100—SCOPE AND DEFINITIONS (2 U.S.C. 431)

1. The authority citation for Part 100 would continue to read as follows:

Authority: 2 U.S.C. 431, 434, and 438(a)(8).

3. Section 100.19 would be amended by revising paragraph (b) to read as follows:

§ 100.19 File, filed or filing (2 U.S.C. 434(a)).

* * * * *

(b) Timely filed. (1) A document, other than those addressed in paragraphs (c) through (g) of this section, is timely filed if:

(i) Deposited:

(A) As registered or certified mail in an established U.S. Post Office;

(B) As Priority Mail or Express Mail, with a delivery confirmation, in an established U.S. Post Office; or

(C) With an overnight delivery service and scheduled to be delivered no more than three business days after the date of deposit and recorded in the overnight delivery service's on-line tracking system; and

(ii) The postmark on the document must be dated no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard/Daylight Time on the filing date, except that pre-election reports must have a postmark dated no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard/Daylight Time on the fifteenth day before the date of the election.

(2) Documents, other than those addressed in paragraphs (c) through (g) of this section, sent by first class mail or by any means other than those listed in paragraph (b)(1)(i) of this section must be received by the close of business on the prescribed filing date to be timely filed.

(3) As used in this paragraph (b) and in § 104.5,

(i) Overnight delivery service means a private delivery service business of

established reliability that offers an overnight delivery service option.

(ii) Postmark means a U.S. Postal Service postmark or the verifiable date of deposit with an overnight delivery service.

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PART 104—REPORTS BY POLITICAL COMMITTEES AND OTHER PERSONS (2 U.S.C. 434)

3. The authority citation for Part 104 would continue to read as follows:

Authority: 2 U.S.C. 431(1), 431(8), 431(9), 432(i), 434, 438(a)(8) and (b), 439a, 441a, and 36 U.S.C. 510.

4. Section 104.5 would be amended by revising paragraphs (a)(2)(i)(A), (c)(1)(ii)(A), and (e) to read as follows:

§ 104.5 Filing dates (2 U.S.C. 434(a)(2)).

(a) * * *

(2) Additional reports in the election year. (i) Pre-election reports. (A) Pre-

election reports for the primary and general election must be filed no later than 12 days before any primary or general election in which the candidate seeks election. If sent by registered or certified mail, Priority Mail or Express Mail with a delivery confirmation, or by an overnight delivery service and scheduled to be delivered no more than three business days from deposit and recorded in the overnight delivery service's on-line tracking system, the postmark on the report must be dated no later than the 15th day before any election.

* * * * *

(c) * * *

(1) * * *

(ii) Pre-election reports. (A) Pre-election reports for the primary and general election shall be filed by a political committee which makes contributions or expenditures in connection with any such election if such disbursements have not been previously disclosed. Pre-election reports shall be filed no later than 12 days before any primary or general election. If sent by registered or certified mail, Priority Mail or Express Mail with a delivery confirmation, or by an overnight delivery service and scheduled to be delivered no more than three business days from deposit and recorded in an on-line tracking system, the postmark on the report shall be dated no later than the 15th day before any election.

* * * * *

(e) Date of filing. A designation, report or statement, other than those addressed in paragraphs (f), (g), and (j) of this section, sent by registered or certified

mail, Priority Mail or Express Mail with a delivery confirmation, or by an overnight delivery service and scheduled to be delivered no more than three business days from deposit and recorded in an on-line tracking system, shall be considered filed on the date of the postmark except that a twelve day pre-election report sent by such mail or overnight delivery service must have a postmark dated no later than the 15th day before any election. Designations, reports or statements, other than those addressed in paragraphs (f), (g), and (j) of this section, sent by first class mail, or by any means other than those lists in this paragraph (e), must be received by the close of business of the prescribed filing date to be timely filed. Designations, reports or statements electronically filed must be received and validated at or before 11:59 p.m., Eastern Standard/Daylight Time on the prescribed filing date to be timely filed.

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Dated: December 17, 2004.

Bradley A. Smith,

Chairman, Federal Election Commission.

[FR Doc. 04-27972 Filed 12-21-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6715-01-P

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

11 CFR Part 114

[Notice 2004-18]

Payroll Deductions by Member Corporations for Contributions to a Trade Association's Separate Segregated Fund

AGENCY: Federal Election Commission. ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Federal Election Commission requests comments on proposed amendments to its rules regarding contributions to the separate segregated fund ("SSF") of a trade association by employee-stockholders and executive and administrative personnel (collectively, "restricted class employees") of corporations that are members of the trade association. Currently, the Commission's regulations prohibit any corporate member of a trade association from using a payroll deduction or check-off system for employee contributions to the trade association's SSF. The Commission proposes to amend its regulations to permit a corporate member of a trade association to provide incidental services to collect and forward contributions from its restricted class employees to the SSF of the trade association, including a payroll

deduction or check-off system, upon written request of the trade association. In addition, the proposed regulations would require any corporate member of a trade association that provides incidental services for contributions to the trade association's SSF also to provide the same services for contributions to the SSF of any labor organization that represents employees of the corporation, upon written request of the labor organization and at a cost not to exceed actual expenses incurred. The Commission has not made any final decisions on the amendments proposed in this Notice and requests comments on them. Further information appears below.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before January 21, 2005. If the Commission receives sufficient requests to testify, it may hold a hearing on these proposed rules. Commenters wishing to testify at the hearing must so indicate in their written or electronic comments.

ADDRESSES: All comments should be addressed to Mr. Brad C. Deutsch, Assistant General Counsel, and must be submitted in either electronic or written form. Commenters are strongly encouraged to submit comments electronically to ensure timely receipt and consideration. Electronic mail comments should be sent to paydeduct@fec.gov and may also be submitted through the Federal eRegulations Portal at www.regulations.gov. All electronic comments must include the full name, electronic mail address, and postal service address of the commenter. Electronic comments that do not contain the full name, electronic mail address, and postal service address of the commenter will not be considered. If the electronic comments include an attachment, the attachment must be in the Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) or Microsoft Word (.doc) format. Faxed comments should be sent to (202) 219-3923, with printed copy follow-up. Written comments and printed copies of faxed comments should be sent to the Federal Election Commission, 999 E Street, NW., Washington, DC 20463. The Commission will post public comments on its Web site. If the Commission decides that a hearing is necessary, the hearing will be held in the Commission's ninth floor meeting room, 999 E Street NW., Washington, DC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Brad C. Deutsch, Assistant General Counsel, or Ms. Amy L. Rothstein, Attorney, 999 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20463, (202) 694-1650 or (800) 424-9530.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: With this notice, the Commission is publishing and seeking comments on a proposed amendment to its regulations regarding corporate use of payroll deduction or check-off systems¹ to collect and forward voluntary employee contributions to the SSF of a trade association of which the corporation is a member. The Commission's regulations currently prohibit member corporations from making payroll deduction or check-off systems available for employee contributions to a trade association's SSF. See 11 CFR 114.8(e)(3).

The Commission is publishing this proposed rule in response to a petition for rulemaking. See Notice of Availability, 68 FR 60887 (October 24, 2003). The Commission emphasizes, however, that it has not made any final decision on whether to amend the existing rules on this subject, and invites comments on the proposed rulemaking.

The Commission proposes to amend 11 CFR 114.8(e)(3) to remove the current prohibition on corporate use of a payroll deduction or check-off system for employee contributions to the SSF of a trade association of which the corporation is a member. The proposed rule would add a new paragraph 114.8(e)(4), which would specifically authorize a member corporation to provide incidental services to collect and forward contributions from its restricted class employees to a trade association's SSF, including a payroll deduction or check-off system, upon written request of the trade association. Further, the proposed rule would require any corporation that provides these incidental services also to make the same services available to a labor organization representing members who work for the corporation, upon written request by the labor organization and at a cost not to exceed any actual expenses incurred. Finally, the proposed rule would make a conforming change to 11 CFR 114.2(f), to clarify that the provision of incidental services pursuant to proposed 11 CFR 114.8(e)(4) is not a prohibited corporate facilitation.

Legal Context

The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the "Act"), and the Commission's regulations permit any trade association to solicit contributions

to the trade association's SSF from the stockholders and executive and administrative personnel, and their families, of the trade association's member corporations, if the member corporation involved has separately and specifically approved the solicitation and has not approved a solicitation by any other trade association for the same calendar year. See 2 U.S.C. 441b(b)(4)(D); 11 CFR 114.8(c). Once these conditions are met, "[t]here is no limitation on the method of soliciting voluntary contributions or the method of facilitating the making of voluntary contributions which a trade association may use." 11 CFR 114.8(e)(3).

Although the regulations do not limit the methods that a trade association may use to solicit and facilitate the making of voluntary contributions to its SSF from the restricted class employees of consenting member corporations, the regulations do limit the methods that a consenting member corporation may use to collect and distribute those contributions. Specifically, a "member corporation may not use a payroll deduction or check-off system for executive or administrative personnel contributing to the separate segregated fund of the trade association." *Id.* The Commission has interpreted this prohibition to extend to all employees of the corporation that may be solicited by the trade association (*i.e.*, restricted class employees), including the member corporation's employee-stockholders. See Advisory Opinion 1989-3.

In recent years, the Commission has given corporations some latitude in collecting and transmitting contributions to a trade association's SSF, so long as the collection did not involve employee payroll deductions. For instance, in Advisory Opinion 2003-22, the Commission interpreted the regulations to permit a corporate member of a trade association to collect voluntary contributions in the form of paper checks from its executive and administrative personnel, and to transmit the contributions to the trade association's SSF. In that opinion, the Commission also interpreted the regulations to permit corporate executives who were collecting employee contribution checks to use the member corporation's inter-office mail system to help collect the checks, and to provide envelopes and postage in which contributors could send their contributions to the trade association's SSF.

Moreover, the Commission has permitted member corporations to deduct contributions electronically to a trade association's SSF, so long as the member corporations did not deduct the

¹ The term "check-off system" as used here means a method by which an employee affirmatively designates a portion of his or her salary to be collected through payroll deductions and contributed to a trade association's SSF, by checking that designation on a pre-printed form or card.

contributions from employee payrolls. See Advisory Opinions 2000–4 and 1998–19. In addition, the Commission has permitted a trade association to pay for electronically deducting monthly contributions to its SSF from the personal checking accounts of restricted class employees of consenting member corporations. See Advisory Opinion 1999–35. The Commission also has permitted State leagues of a federation of trade associations and the leagues' local corporate members to serve as collecting agents for contributions to the federation's SSF, and to pay expenses incurred in connection with that activity. See Advisory Opinion 1998–19; compare to Advisory Opinion 2000–4.

The Petition for Rulemaking

On September 3, 2003, the Commission received a Petition for Rulemaking (the "Petition") from America's Community Bankers and its SSF, the America's Community Bankers Community Campaign Committee (collectively, "Petitioners"). Petitioners asked the Commission to amend the regulations to permit, rather than to prohibit, a member corporation to use a payroll deduction or check-off system for contributions by its restricted class employees to a trade association's SSF.

Petitioners advanced four arguments in support of their request. First, Petitioners asserted that the Act does not require the exclusion of payroll deduction and check-off systems from permissible methods of collecting and forwarding contributions to a trade association's SSF. Second, Petitioners asserted that the prohibition on payroll deduction and check-off systems is inconsistent with Commission advisory opinions and other Commission regulations. Third, Petitioners asserted that the concerns that prompted the prohibition in the first place, as discussed at a June 29, 1976 Commission meeting, (1) resulted from a misunderstanding on the part of some of the commissioners at the meeting, (2) are inconsistent with later Commission actions, and (3) could have been addressed by means other than the prohibition.² Finally, Petitioners asserted that factual and legal changes that have occurred since the prohibition was promulgated in 1976 warrant a change in the regulations.

² Petitioners identified several concerns as having prompted the prohibition, including a concern that labor unions be given equal access to fundraising methods used by corporations, and a concern that corporate facilitation of contributions to a trade association's SSF would be prohibited by the Act. These issues are addressed further in the text of this Notice.

In accordance with its usual procedures, the Commission published a notice stating that the Petition was available for public review and comment. See Notice of Availability, 68 FR 60887 (October 24, 2003). The comment period closed on November 24, 2003. The Commission received 30 comments in response to the Notice of Availability: 22 from trade associations, six from corporate members of one of the trade associations that submitted comments, one from a professional association, and one from a Member of Congress. The comments submitted by the six corporations were substantially identical both to each other and to comments submitted by the trade association to which the corporations belonged.

Summary of Comments on the Petition for Rulemaking

All of the comments received by the Commission supported the Petition for Rulemaking. The commenters' arguments in favor of the Petition fell into three categories: legal, policy and practical.

1. Legal Arguments

Almost all of the commenters addressed the question of whether the Act prohibits member corporations from using payroll deduction and check-off systems to collect voluntary contributions to a trade association's SSF from restricted class employees. All of the commenters that addressed the question concluded that the Act does not prohibit the use of payroll deduction and check-off systems.

Moreover, several commenters asserted that eliminating the prohibition would be consistent with the Act's broad grant of authority to trade associations to solicit contributions to their SSFs from the restricted class of consenting member corporations, as set out in 2 U.S.C. 441b(b)(4)(D). Several commenters also asserted that eliminating the regulatory prohibition would be consistent with the Act's exclusion of corporate, trade association and labor union payments for establishing, administering and soliciting contributions to an SSF from the definition of "contribution or expenditure," as set out in 2 U.S.C. 441b(b)(2)(C).

With respect to the regulation itself, a few commenters perceived an inconsistency between the first sentence of 11 CFR 114.8(e)(3), which permits a trade association to use any method to solicit and facilitate the making of voluntary contributions from restricted class employees of consenting member corporations, and the second sentence

of 11 CFR 114.8(e)(3), which contains the prohibition on member corporations' use of payroll deduction and check-off systems at issue here. The commenters opined that only the first sentence is consistent with the Act.

Several commenters indicated that the Commission's own advisory opinions support eliminating the prohibition. Specifically, the commenters argued that the prohibition is inconsistent with (1) Advisory Opinion 2003–22, which permits a member company to collect and forward employee contributions in the form of checks to a trade association's SSF; (2) Advisory Opinions 1995–28, 1995–17, 1989–18 and 1980–89, which allow a member corporation to contribute to a trade association to help defray the costs of establishing, administering and soliciting for the trade association's SSF; and (3) Advisory Opinions 1999–35, 1998–19, 1997–9 and 1986–7, which permit contributions to a trade association's SSF or a membership association's SSF to be automatically debited from contributors' accounts.

2. Policy Arguments

Several commenters perceived a lack of a policy rationale for the prohibition on corporate use of payroll deductions to collect voluntary employee contributions to a trade association's SSF. They argued that the lack of an underlying policy purpose was demonstrated by the Commission's issuance of advisory opinions permitting other methods of collecting contributions to a trade association's SSF.

In addition, a number of commenters asserted that any underlying policy rationale for the prohibition has been rendered obsolete by the growth in the use of electronic methods for making and receiving payments since 1976, including by federal government agencies such as the Internal Revenue Service and the Social Security Administration. The commenters noted the decreasing role of paper checks in American society. They cited to the growing prevalence of electronic payroll deductions in the workplace, the large number of employees who currently use payroll deductions and the variety of goods and services paid through payroll deductions, such as health and life insurance premiums, flexible spending accounts, retirement savings plans, charitable contributions, loan and mortgage payments, gym memberships and club dues.

One commenter stated that questions regarding the permissibility of various forms of electronic deductions are likely to increase, both in number and in

complexity, as technology advances and as corporations provide more innovative financial services to their employees. This commenter suggested that amending the regulations to permit payroll deductions would eliminate the need for the Commission to answer these questions on a case-by-case basis through the advisory opinion process.

Several commenters also indicated that removing the regulatory prohibition could help to promote fairness. According to one commenter, the current regulation disadvantages SSFs sponsored by smaller trade associations that try to compete in the political arena against SSFs sponsored by larger trade associations, presumably because larger trade associations and their SSFs have greater resources to devote to SSF fundraising efforts. This commenter suggested that removing the regulatory prohibition on payroll deductions could help smaller trade associations' SSFs to raise funds and thus to compete with larger trade associations' SSFs in representing their members' political interests.

In addition, several commenters complained that SSFs sponsored by trade associations are at a disadvantage compared to SSFs sponsored by corporations and labor organizations, not only because the regulations permit payroll deductions of contributions to corporate and labor organization SSFs, but also because they require trade association SSFs to obtain prior approval before soliciting restricted class employees, without imposing any analogous prior approval requirement on corporate and labor organization SSFs. These commenters suggested that removing the prohibition on member corporations' use of payroll deductions to collect employee contributions to a trade association's SSF could help to rectify a perceived inequality in the fundraising abilities of trade association SSFs on the one hand, and corporate and labor organization SSFs on the other hand.

Finally, some commenters pointed out that not all corporate members of trade associations have their own SSFs, and that these companies may rely on their trade association's SSF to serve as their political voice. According to these commenters, a trade association's SSF is one of the most accessible mechanisms for political participation by restricted class employees of companies that do not have their own SSFs, and allowing payroll deduction and check-off systems would allow restricted class employees to spread out their contributions easily over time.

3. Practical Arguments

A number of commenters addressed the practical advantages of permitting member corporations to make payroll deductions available to their restricted class employees for contributions to a trade association's SSF. The commenters described payroll deductions as, among other things, widely available, reliable, simple to administer, convenient and imposing minimal or no cost on the corporations that offer them.

According to these commenters, the benefits of permitting a member corporation to collect voluntary employee contributions to a trade association's SSF through a payroll deduction or check-off system would extend to every party to the transaction. Contributing employees would find it more convenient and affordable to have smaller, regular contributions automatically deducted from their paychecks than to write a single check for a larger sum. Member corporations would find it more efficient and less costly to collect employee contributions through automatic payroll deductions, and those that did not would be free to use other methods of collecting contributions. Trade associations would be able to reduce their SSF fundraising expenses, and their SSFs would find it easier to track and document both contributing individuals and individual contributions. The end result, according to these commenters, would be increased participation by individuals in the political process and enhanced reporting of their contributions.

Analysis

The Petition and comments raise a reasonable question as to whether the regulatory prohibition against payroll deduction and check-off systems continues to make sense. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that the goals of the Act and the interests of the regulated community would be best served by further examination of this issue and invites public comments on it.

1. Proposed Changes to 11 CFR 114.8(e)

The Commission proposes amending 11 CFR 114.8(e) to remove the prohibition on a corporation's use of a payroll deduction or check-off system for contributions by restricted class employees to the SSF of a trade association of which the corporation is a member. The Commission proposes to effect this change by deleting the second sentence of 11 CFR 114.8(e)(3) in its entirety and by adding a new paragraph 114.8(e)(4). Existing paragraph

114.8(e)(4) would be redesignated as 114.8(e)(5).

As proposed, new paragraph 114.8(e)(4) would permit, but not require, a corporation to provide incidental services to collect and forward contributions from its restricted class employees to the SSF of a trade association of which the corporation is a member, upon written request of the trade association. Based on information in the Petition and in the comments regarding the wide availability and minimal cost of payroll deductions, the proposed regulation would expressly authorize the use of a payroll deduction or check-off system as an incidental service. The Commission invites public comments on this issue.

In addition to permitting a member corporation to provide incidental services to collect and forward employee contributions to a trade association's SSF, proposed paragraph 114.8(e)(4) would require any corporation that provides these services to make the same services available to a labor organization representing employees of the corporation, upon written request of the labor organization and at a cost that does not exceed any actual expenses incurred. The Commission considers this requirement to be necessary to prevent circumvention of provisions in the Act and Commission regulations that seek to prevent corporate SSFs from gaining an unfair fundraising advantage over labor organization SSFs. See 2 U.S.C. 441b(b)(6) and 11 CFR 114.5(k)(1).

The Petitioners and some of the commenters noted that a corporation without its own SSF might rely exclusively on its trade association's SSF to represent its corporate interests in the political arena. Absent the requirement in proposed paragraph 114.8(e)(4) that a member corporation make incidental services available to a labor organization representing employees of the corporation if the corporation makes those services available to a trade association, a corporation could allow restricted class employees to contribute through payroll deductions to the corporation's proxy SSF administered by a trade association, without permitting employees who are members of a labor organization to contribute to their labor organization's SSF through payroll deductions. This outcome would create an inequality that could subvert the careful balance struck in the Act and Commission regulations between corporate SSFs and labor organization SSFs. The Commission invites public comments on this issue.

The only distinction in the proposed rule between providing incidental

services to collect and forward employee contributions to a trade association's SSF on the one hand, and providing incidental services to collect and forward employee contributions to a labor organization's SSF on the other hand, is in the area of reimbursement. The proposed rule would not require a trade association or its SSF to reimburse the corporation for any actual expenses that the corporation incurs in providing the incidental services. As the Commission has stated previously, "incidental services by corporate members would not require reimbursement by the trade association since, in any event, reimbursement if required would come from membership dues paid to the trade association by its corporate members." Advisory Opinion 1979-8 at 2, citing to Federal Election Regulations, Explanation and Justification, House Document No. 95-44, page 114. See also Advisory Opinion 1978-13.

A labor organization or its SSF that receives incidental services from a corporate employer of members of the labor organization, by contrast, would be required to reimburse the corporation for the cost of providing those services. The Commission has previously found that a prohibited corporate contribution would result from a failure by a labor organization to reimburse a corporation for actual expenses incurred by the corporation in providing a payroll deduction or check-off system for contributions to the labor organization's SSF. See Advisory Opinions 1981-39 and 1979-21. The Commission invites public comments on this issue.

2. Proposed Changes to 11 CFR 114.2(f)

The Commission proposes making a conforming change to the regulation that currently prohibits a corporation from facilitating the making of contributions to political committees, other than to the corporation's own SSF. See 11 CFR 114.2(f)(1). The term "facilitation" means using corporate resources or facilities to engage in fundraising activities in connection with any federal election. Id. Facilitation does not include, however, enrollment by a corporation or labor organization of members of the corporation's or labor organization's restricted class in a payroll deduction plan or check-off system to make contributions to the corporation's or labor organization's SSF. See 11 CFR 114.2(f)(4)(i).

The Commission proposes adding a new paragraph (5) to 11 CFR 114.2(f), to specify that facilitation also would not include the provision of incidental services by a corporation to collect and forward voluntary contributions from its

restricted class employees to the SSF of a trade association of which the corporation is a member, pursuant to 11 CFR 114.8(e)(4), as revised. The new paragraph would state that a corporation could collect the contributions through a payroll deduction or check-off system. The Commission invites public comments on this proposal.

Certification of No Effect Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 605(b) (Regulatory Flexibility Act)

The attached proposed rules, if promulgated, would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. The basis for this certification is that the proposed rules permit, but do not require, a corporation to provide incidental services to collect and forward contributions from its restricted class employees to the separate segregated fund of a trade association of which the corporation is a member, including the use of a payroll deduction or check-off system. Under current law, a corporation is permitted to collect and transmit contributions manually to the SSF of a trade association to which the corporation belongs. If promulgated, the proposed rule should enable those corporations that wish to transmit employee contributions to trade association SSFs to do so more efficiently and using fewer resources.

List of Subjects in 11 CFR Part 114

Business and industry, elections, labor.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, the Federal Election Commission proposes to amend subchapter A of chapter 1 of title 11 of the Code of Federal Regulations as follows:

PART 114—CORPORATE AND LABOR ORGANIZATION ACTIVITY

1. The authority citation for part 114 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 2 U.S.C. 431(8)(B), 431(9)(B), 432, 434, 437d(a)(8), 441b.

2. Amend § 114.2 by adding new paragraph (f)(5), to read as follows:

§ 114.2 Prohibitions on contributions and expenditures.

* * * * * (f) * * *

(5) Facilitating the making of contributions also does not include the provision of incidental services by a corporation to collect and forward contributions from its employee stockholders and executive and administrative personnel to the separate segregated fund of a trade association of

which the corporation is a member, including collection through a payroll deduction or check-off system, pursuant to 11 CFR 114.8(e)(4).

3. Amend § 114.8 by revising paragraph (e)(3), by redesignating paragraph (e)(4) as new paragraph (e)(5), and by adding a new paragraph (e)(4) to read as follows:

§ 114.8 Trade associations.

* * * * * (e) * * *

(3) There is no limitation on the method of soliciting voluntary contributions or the method of facilitating the making of voluntary contributions which a trade association may use.

(4) A corporation may provide incidental services to collect and forward contributions from its employee stockholders and executive and administrative personnel to the separate segregated fund of a trade association of which the corporation is a member, including a payroll deduction or check-off system, upon written request of the trade association. Any corporation that provides such services shall make those services available to a labor organization representing any members working for the corporation, upon written request of the labor organization and at a cost sufficient only to reimburse the corporation for the expenses incurred thereby.

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Dated: December 17, 2004.

Bradley A. Smith, Chairman, Federal Election Commission. [FR Doc. 04-27971 Filed 12-21-04; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 6715-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 93-ANE-07-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Teledyne Continental Motors (Formerly Bendix) S-20, S-1200, D-2000, and D-3000 Series Magnetos

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: The FAA proposes to supersede an existing airworthiness directive (AD) for Teledyne Continental