

Don Hooper for Congress Committee
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COMMISSION
OFFICE OF GENERAL
COUNSEL

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Dear Commission Members,

In reply to your complaint copy against the Iosco County Republican Committee (Tawas City, Michigan) for alleged violation of the Federal Election Campaign Act. (MUR # 5632)

I was an unsuccessful candidate for the office of U.S. Representative from the 1st District of Michigan in the election cycle of 2004. This first district is the largest multi-county district in the United States. It has 31 counties, it is five hundred and eighty five miles from end to end and covers approximately 5/8ths of the land mass of Michigan.

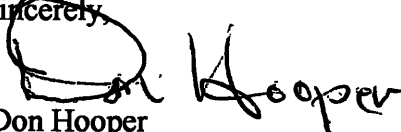
Due to the immensity of this district, I have never seen or heard of any promotion of my candidacy other than my own efforts. Also, I was never asked by any individual or organization of any kind to give my authorization to a promotion of any kind, dedicated to my candidacy. This includes newspapers, television or printed materials. However, if I had, I would have been very grateful. This whole matter is surprising to me.

It is expected and traditional activity for county committees to promote their party candidates in a lawful and dignified manner. In fact it is their sole purpose for existing. Then along came "The McCain-Fiengold Campaign Reform Act." It is so complicated that even political party lawyers cannot fully understand some of it's implications, and so they suggest that any effort made towards promoting candidates be kept on the safe side of their understanding of the act, so as not to violate current regulations. It is my belief that this is what the Iosco county committee intended to do, because the division between state and federal candidates is very blurred indeed, except to those that study and print it for their livelihood

I am not a lawyer but it is my personal opinion that this complaint by Mr. Brewer is frivolous in nature and is instigated by the Democratic leadership throughout the whole nation in an attempt to once again try to create the impression that President Bush is an illigitiment president. Substantiation of this opinion was evident in the recent display in the U.S. Senate when Senator Barbara Boxer (D-Cal.) and many others from her party, protested the Ohio State electoral count on Jan. 6th of this year. There have been many other suggestions by them of this nature, on national news programs ever since the election, and this is just one more attempt to pile coal on a fire they are trying to ignite.

Sincerely,

Don Hooper



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