



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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November 17, 2004

ACLU of Rhode Island
c/o Steve Brown, Executive Director
128 Dorrance Street, Suite 220
Providence, RI 02903-9636

Dear Mr. Brown:

It has come to the attention of the Board of Elections that the ACLU of Rhode Island expended money to advocate for the rejection of a ballot question in the November election.

According to R.I.G.L. 17-25-10(b), "It shall be lawful for any "Person", not otherwise prohibited by law and not acting in concert with any other person or group, to expend personally from that person's own funds a sum which is not to be repaid to him or her for any purpose not prohibited by law to support or defeat a candidate or to advocate the approval or rejection of any question; provided, that any person making the expenditure shall be required to report all his or her expenditures and expenses, if the total of the money so expended exceeds one hundred dollars (\$100.00) within a calendar year, to the board of elections within seven (7) days of making the expenditure and to the campaign treasurer of the candidate or political party committee on whose behalf the expenditure or contribution was made within seven (7) days of making the expenditure, who causes the expenditures and expenses to be included in his or her reports to the board of elections."

Further, R.I.G.L. 17-25-3 defines "Person" as an individual, partnership, committee, association, corporation, and any other organization.

This office requests that the ACLU of Rhode Island provide the necessary disclosures to be compliant with the Rhode Island Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act. A "Schedule of Independent Expenditures" (Form CF-8) has been provided for your convenience.

Please contact me at 222-2345 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Richard E. Thornton
Supervising Accountant

Enclosure

002084

Exhibit XVII