

October 25, 2011

New York City Campaign Finance Board
40 Rector Street, 7th Floor
New York, NY 10006

Dear New York City Campaign Finance Board:

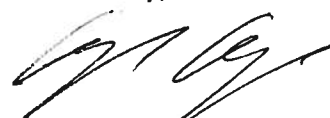
In November of 2010 New York City voters approved an amendment to the City Charter requiring the disclosure of independent expenditures by individuals and groups trying to persuade voters on candidates and referenda on the ballot. I believe the Board is heading down the wrong path by drafting rules that do not exempt member-to-member communications.

I joined the Hotel Trades Council in 2007, after I started my job at the Time Hotel. While I registered to vote when I turned 18, I never voted until my union strongly encouraged me to during the 2008 election. I take the Union's involvement in politics seriously. I look to the Union's endorsement, because I trust the leadership to look out for the interest of the whole membership. I especially trust them more than I trust large media companies.

Through working with the union, I've learned that it's not enough to just complain, you need to go do something about the politics that affect you. This is our responsibility to go vote, and we must also remember the sacrifices of those who fought for the right to vote. Those people who don't care are most likely the ones negatively affected by the policies that are enacted. Because of this, I now volunteer on campaigns and have even served on Community Board 5 in Manhattan. My friends and family cannot get me to stop talking about local issues that affect us all.

Without a doubt I would not be engaged in politics or local issues if my Union had not motivated me to do so. Hampering the free flow of *internal* communications about politics would limit the work our Union does to encourage all members to participate in the process.

Sincerely,



Angel Aybar