

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:

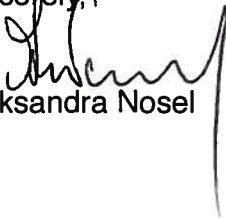
In November of 2010, New York City voters approved an amendment to the City Charter requiring the disclosure of independent expenditures by individuals and groups to persuade voters on candidates and referenda on the ballot. I believe the Board is headed down the wrong path by drafting rules that do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

I joined the Hotel Trades Council in 2000, after I started my job as a Room Attendant working at the Affinia Manhattan Hotel. Since that time, my Union has consistently and constantly emphasized the importance of voting as a way to help protect workers' rights, fair pay and benefits. My Union's endorsement matters to me because I know we will only support candidates that promote workers' rights. Issues like job security, good salaries, respect, and benefits for the working class are very important to me and I know that we will only back a candidate who will fight for us.

But most importantly, since joining the Hotel Trades Council, I've registered to vote; I've encouraged fellow union members to register; I've brought up elections with my co-workers as well as members of my community; and I've volunteered, and even encouraged friends to volunteer on numerous election campaigns throughout the City and State. Without my Union's support, encouragement and constant reminders about the importance of politics, I would not have engaged in politics at all.

I believe this is the type of participation the Campaign Finance Board should encourage. Unfortunately, your proposed rules would discourage membership organizations from talking to members about politics. In an environment like that, I believe even less people will participate, and that would be a great disservice to the working people of the City of New York.

Sincerely,



Aleksandra Nosel