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ELECTION LAW SYMPOSIUM

On Thursday, November 1, 2001, the Catholic University Law Review hosted its third annual Election Law Symposium at the Catholic University Law School in Washington, D.C. The Hudson Institute co-sponsored the event.

Entitled “Looking Ahead at Campaign Finance Reform: What’s Next for the McCain-Feingold Bill? What’s Next For the Future of Politics in America?,” the 2001 symposium focused on recent congressional efforts to reform the campaign finance laws. Following welcome remarks by Dean William F. Fox, Jr., FEC Commissioner and Vice Chairman David M. Mason delivered introductory comments regarding his perspective on the recent campaign finance reform efforts.

The symposium was divided into two panels of distinguished election law experts. Moderated by Dean Fox, the first panel discussed the likely legal challenges that would have faced the McCain-Feingold Bill had it become law in 2001. The first panel was comprised of Jan Witold Baran, Partner at Wiley Rein & Fielding; Robert F. Bauer, Partner at Perkins Coie LLP; James Bopp, Jr., Member at Bopp, Coleson & Bostrom; and Trevor Potter, Member at Caplin & Drysdale.

The second panel, moderated by Amy Kauffman of the Hudson Institute, debated the political implications of the McCain-Feingold Bill and how its passage could impact future political campaigns on both the federal and state levels. Sitting on the second panel were E. Mark Braden, Of Counsel at Baker & Hostetler LLP; Benjamin Ginsberg, Partner at Patton Boggs LLP; Matt Keller, Legislative Director at Common Cause; James Portnoy, Special Counsel at Covington & Burling; and Joseph Sandler, Member at Sandler, Reiff & Young, PC.

The editors of the Catholic University Law Review would like to express their gratitude to all those who participated in the symposium. Special thanks are owed to Amy Kauffman and the Hudson Institute for their help in making the 2001 Election Law Symposium a stimulating event.