

United States General Accounting Office Washington, DC 20548

October 10, 2003

The Honorable F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr. Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary House of Representatives

Subject: Federally Chartered Corporation: Review of the Financial Statement Audit

Reports for the National Conference of State Societies, Washington,

District of Columbia, for Fiscal Years 2001 and 2000

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As requested, we reviewed the audit reports covering the financial statements of the National Conference of State Societies, Washington, District of Columbia, a federally chartered corporation, for the fiscal years ended May 31, 2001 and 2000. The corporation's purpose is to promote friendly and cooperative relations between the various state and territorial societies in the District of Columbia, and to foster, participate in, and encourage educational, cultural, charitable, civic, and patriotic programs and activities in the District of Columbia.

Federally chartered corporations are required under 36 U.S.C. 10101 to

- present the corporation's assets and liabilities and reasonable detail on the corporation's income and expenses in annual financial statements, and
- obtain an annual financial audit by an independent public accountant.

The objective of our review was to determine whether the audit reports complied with the financial reporting requirements of the law. In carrying out our work, we reviewed the corporation's financial statements and the accompanying notes, performed certain analytical procedures related to information presented in the financial statements, and reviewed the auditors' reports. However, we did not review the auditors' working papers, and we are not rendering an audit opinion. Our review disclosed no reportable instances of noncompliance with the financial reporting requirements of the law.

The audit reports included the auditors' opinions that the financial statements of the corporation were presented fairly on the cash basis of accounting. The notes to the financial statements indicate that the corporation would have shown an operating deficit at May 31, 2001 and 2000 under the accrual basis of accounting. We are returning the audit reports you sent with your letter.

Sincerely yours,

Jeanette M. Franzel

Director

Financial Management and Assurance

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w/o Enclosures

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