



United States General Accounting Office
Washington, DC 20548

June 26, 2001

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

Subject: Federally Chartered Corporation: Review of the Financial Statement Audit Report for the National Conference of State Societies, Washington, District of Columbia, for Fiscal Years 1999 and 1998

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As requested, we reviewed the audit report 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, 1999 and 1998. 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,

obtain an annual financial audit by an independent public accountant, and

submit the auditors' report and the corporation's financial statements to the Congress.

The objective of our review was to determine whether the audit report 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, reviewed the auditors' report, and made inquiries to corporation officials or the auditors as we deemed necessary. We did not review the auditors' working papers. Our review disclosed no reportable instances of noncompliance.

The audit report included the auditors' opinion that the financial statements of the corporation were presented fairly on a cash basis of accounting. The notes to the financial statements indicate that the corporation would have shown an operating deficit at May 31, 1999 and 1998 under the accrual basis of accounting. We are returning the audit report you sent with your letter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey C. Steinhoff". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jeffrey" being more prominent and the last name "Steinhoff" following in a similar style.

Jeffrey C. Steinhoff
Managing Director
Financial Management and Assurance

w/o Enclosure

(194047)