Another committee opens campaign against Church

Dan Sept 30 1979

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A third committee has moved against U.S. Sen. Frank Church, D-Idaho, by attacking his voting record.

The Washington-based group calling itself the Committee to Defeat the Union Bosses, has opened its campaign by inserting large display ads in major Idaho dailies, including The Post-Register.

The committee alleges that Church is one of the union bosses' favorites "and gets high marks from them for issues that really count."

The committee is headed by Tom L. Phillips and Ron Pearson, executive secretary.

In answer to inquiries, Pearson said the committee is made up of eight board members residing in the Washington area.

"This is an independent political action committee and was organized about three or four years ago," said Pearson.

He said it did not include any Idahoans but is concerned mainly with campaigns against union bosses on certain issues nationwide.

Other campaigns

Pearson said a similar campaign is also being waged against Sen. George McGovern, D-South Dakota.

He said the committee conducts other such campaigns on union issues, some of the legislative levels in some states.

He explained funding is obtained from direct mail in response to newspaper advertisements.

"We are not out to make money but to fight the union bosses on some positions," said Pearson. "We hope the contributions will help pay for the ads."

Cleve Corlett, press secretary for Church, said the senator would not comment on the committee's efforts, adding "this is an out-of-state group and we don't expect the people of Idaho will be taken in by this kind of tactics."

This committee augments two Boise-based committees, Anybody but Church and the Idaho Committee for Positive Actions, also aimed at Church.

The display ad attacks Church for voting on six proposals which the committee said favored the stand taken by the union bosses.

Those were yes votes for the Panama Canal Treaties, Labor Law Reform, and District of Columbia voting rights, and negative votes on Sen. Bill Roth tax cuts, food stamp cuts and union extra-rights in elections.

The ad then said Church represented the union bosses but did he really represent Idaho?

It carries a box for contributions, listing suggestions for $100, $50, $25, $10 and others.

The committee said the ad was not authorized by any candidate and a copy of its report is on file with the Federal Election Committee and is available for purchase.