

HOUSE No. 593

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bradley H. Jones, Jr.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act changing the campaign finance reporting cycle.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Bradley H. Jones, Jr.	20th Middlesex
Viriato Manuel deMacedo	1st Plymouth
George N. Peterson, Jr.	9th Worcester
Elizabeth Poirier	14th Bristol
Paul K. Frost	7th Worcester
Susan Williams Gifford	2nd Plymouth
Bradford R. Hill	4th Essex
Richard J. Ross	9th Norfolk
Todd M. Smola	1st Hampden
Robert S. Hargraves	1st Middlesex

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT CHANGING THE CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTING CYCLE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 55 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking section 7A, as
2 appearing in the 2006 Official Edition inserting in place thereof the following:

3 Section 7A. (a)(1) An individual may make campaign contributions to candidates or candidates'
4 committees; provided, however, that the aggregate of all such contributions for the benefit of any
5 one candidate and that candidate's committee shall not exceed the sum of \$750 per election.

6 (2) An individual may in addition make campaign contributions for the benefit of elected
7 political committees or non-elected political committees organized on behalf of a political party;
8 provided, however, that the aggregate of such campaign contributions for the benefit of the
9 political committees of any one political party shall not exceed the sum of \$7,350 per election.

10 (3) An individual may in addition make campaign contributions to any political committee not
11 specified in paragraph (1), (2) or (4); provided, however, that the aggregate of such campaign
12 contributions to any one such political committee shall not exceed in the sum of \$750 per
13 election.

14 (4) An individual may in addition make contributions without limitation to ballot question

15 committees.

16 (5) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection, the aggregate of all contributions
17 from any one individual to all candidates and candidate's committees shall not exceed the sum of
18 \$18,400 per election;

19 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the aggregate of all contributions by a
20 legislative or executive agent for the benefit of any one candidate and such candidate's
21 committee shall not exceed the sum of \$200 per election. Notwithstanding any other provision of
22 this chapter, the aggregate of all contributions by a legislative or executive agent to any other
23 political committee, other than a ballot question committee, shall not exceed the sum of \$200 per
24 election.

25 (c) The contribution and aggregate amount limits referred to in this section shall be indexed
26 biennially for inflation by the director, who, not later than December thirty-first of each even
27 numbered year beginning with 2010, shall calculate and publish such indexed amount, using the
28 federal consumer price index for the Boston statistical area. Such limits, after being calculated
29 as above, shall be rounded to the nearest \$50; provided, that, if such resulting amount is less than
30 \$50, the director shall retain a record of the resulting amount, when added to the resulting
31 amount calculated in each even numbered year since the last adjustment was made equals or
32 exceeds \$50.

33 (d) For purposes of the limitations on contributions, a contribution to a designated contribution
34 committee which is forwarded to the designated recipient shall be treated in all respects as a
35 direct contribution from the original contributor to the designated recipient.