SENATE DOCKET, NO. 106 FILED ON: 1/18/2011

SENATE . . . . . No. 293

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Steven A. Baddour

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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to the administration of political action committees organized by not-for-profit corporations..

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Steven A. Baddour	

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SENATE . . . . . No. 293

By Mr. Baddour, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 293) of Steven A. Baddour for legislation relative to the administration of political action committees . Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act relative to the administration of political action committees organized by not-for-profit corporations..

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

SECTION 1. Section 1 of Chapter 55 of the Massachusetts General Laws is hereby amended by deleting in its entirety paragraph four and by inserting the following: "Contribution", a contribution of money or anything of value to an individual, candidate, political committee, or person acting on behalf of said individual, candidate or political committee, for the purpose of influencing the nomination or election of said individual or candidate, or for the purpose of supporting or opposing a political party committee, or for the purpose of promoting or opposing a charter change, referendum question, constitutional amendment, or other question submitted to the voters, and shall include any: (1) gift, subscription, loan, advance, deposit of money, or thing of value, except a loan of money to a candidate by a national or state bank made in accordance with the applicable banking laws and regulations and in the ordinary course of business; (2) transfer of money or anything of value between political committees; (3) payment, by any person other than a candidate or political committee, or compensation for the personal services of another person which are rendered to such candidate or committee; (4) purchase from an

14 individual, candidate, or political committee, or person acting on behalf of said individual,
15 candidate, or political committee, whether through the device of tickets, advertisements, or
16 otherwise, for fund-raising activities, including testimonials, held on behalf of said individual,
17 candidate or political committee, to the extent that the purchase price exceeds the actual cost of
18 the goods sold or services rendered; (5) discount or rebate not available to other candidates for
19 the same office and to the general public; and (6) forgiveness of indebtedness or payment of
20 indebtedness by another person; but shall not include the rendering of services by speakers,
21 editors, writers, poll watchers, poll checkers or others; nor the payment by those rendering such
22 services of such personal expenses as may be incidental thereto; nor the exercise of ordinary
23 hospitality; nor any costs to solicit, administer or maintain a political action committee organized
24 by a not-for-profit corporation, trade union, trade association or chamber of commerce provided
25 that such costs shall not exceed thirty percent of the political action committee's annual
26 expenditures; provided, further, that a transfer of funds or payments by a depository candidate or
27 his committee to the political committee of a party, for goods or services provided to a candidate
28 or his committee by such political party shall not be considered to be a contribution.

29 SECTION 2. Section 8 of Chapter 55 of the Massachusetts General Laws is hereby
30 amended by inserting after the word "party" in line 14 the following: ; except for costs to solicit,
31 administer or maintain a political action committee organized by a not-for-profit corporation,
32 trade union, trade association or chamber of commerce provided that such costs shall not exceed
33 thirty percent of the political action committee's annual expenditures.