

**SENATE . . . . . No. 322**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Bruce E. Tarr***

*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 independent campaign expenditures and electioneering communications..

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	
<i>Michael R. Knapik</i>	
<i>Richard J. Ross</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>
<i>Richard T. Moore</i>	

**SENATE . . . . . No. 322**

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By Mr. Tarr, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 322) of Bruce E. Tarr, Michael R. Knapik, Richard J. Ross and Richard T. Moore for legislation relative to independent campaign expenditures and electioneering communications. Election Laws.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 363 OF 2009-2010.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand Eleven**  
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An Act relative to independent campaign expenditures and electioneering communications..

*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. Section 18A of chapter 55 of the General Laws, as appearing in the  
2   2008 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the first paragraph the following  
3   paragraph:-

4           Every individual, group or association not defined as a political action committee,  
5   who makes an independent expenditure or expenditures in an aggregate amount exceeding one  
6   hundred dollars during any calendar year to produce and disseminate candidate-specific issue  
7   advertising or other electioneering communications that advocate, either directly or indirectly,  
8   the election or defeat of any candidate or candidates, shall file a report with the director, or with  
9   the city or town clerk if such candidate seeks public office at a city or town election, within  
10   seven business days after making such independent expenditure or expenditures. For the

11 purposes of this section, the term “electioneering communication” shall mean a public  
12 communication, whether in print, broadcast or electronic form, that is released within 30 days of  
13 a primary and within 60 days of a general election and seeks to: influence the selection,  
14 nomination, election or appointment of one or more candidates to state or local offices; influence  
15 one or more state or local ballot initiatives, state or local referenda, state or local constitutional  
16 amendments, state or local bond issues, or other state or local ballot issues; influence the  
17 selection, appointment, nomination or confirmation of one or more individuals to non-elected  
18 state or local offices; or which promotes, supports, attacks or opposes a clearly identified  
19 candidate for state or local office, including, but not limited to, the candidate’s position on one or  
20 more public policy issues. Such report shall be filed on a form prescribed by the director, and  
21 shall state the name and address of the individual, group or association making the expenditure  
22 or expenditures; the name of the candidate for state or local office the individual, group or  
23 association is advocating the election or defeat of; the name and address of the person or persons  
24 to whom the expenditure or expenditures were made; and the total amount or value, the purpose  
25 and the date of the expenditure or expenditures.