

HOUSE No. 595

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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act changing the campaign finance reporting cycle.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>	<i>20th Middlesex</i>
<i>George N. Peterson, Jr.</i>	<i>9th Worcester</i>
<i>Bradford Hill</i>	<i>4th Essex</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Poirier</i>	<i>14th Bristol</i>
<i>Viriato Manuel deMacedo</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>
<i>Donald Humason</i>	
<i>Sheila C. Harrington</i>	<i>1st Middlesex</i>
<i>Nicholas A. Boldyga</i>	<i>3rd Hampden</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>
<i>Matthew A. Beaton</i>	<i>11th Worcester</i>
<i>Daniel B. Winslow</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>

HOUSE No. 595

By Mr. Jones of North Reading, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 595) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., and others relative to campaign financing and reporting. Election Laws.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1974 OF 2011-2012.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

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, as most recently amended by chapter 194
2 of the acts of 2011, is hereby further amended by striking section 7A, and inserting in place
3 thereof the following section:-

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

8 (2) An individual may in addition make campaign contributions for the benefit of elected
9 political committees or non-elected political committees organized on behalf of a political party;
10 provided, however, that the aggregate of such campaign contributions for the benefit of the
11 political committees of any one political party shall not exceed the sum of \$7,500 per election.

12 (3) An individual may in addition make campaign contributions to any political
13 committee not specified in paragraph (1), (2) or (4); provided, however, that the aggregate of
14 such campaign contributions to any one such political committee shall not exceed the sum of
15 \$750 per election.

16 (4) An individual may in addition make contributions without limitation to ballot
17 question committees.

18 (5) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection, the aggregate of all
19 contributions from any one individual to all candidates and candidate's committees shall not
20 exceed the sum of \$18,750 per election;

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

27 (c) The contribution and aggregate amount limits referred to in this section shall be
28 indexed biennially for inflation by the director, who, not later than December thirty-first of each
29 even numbered year beginning with 2013, shall calculate and publish such indexed amount,
30 using the federal consumer price index for the Boston statistical area. Such limits, after being
31 calculated as above, shall be rounded to the nearest \$50; provided, that, if such resulting amount
32 is less than \$50, the director shall retain a record of the resulting amount, when added to the
33 resulting amount calculated in each even numbered year since the last adjustment was made
34 equals or exceeds \$50.

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