

Primary Sponsor Bill Summary

Senate, No. 8	Proposal for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to campaign finance reform
Sponsor:	Senator Paul W. Mark
Legislative amendment to:	The Massachusetts Constitution
Proposed legislation:	<p>A constitutional amendment that ensures that the Massachusetts general court may regulate and set reasonable limits on political contributions and expenditures. This bill establishes that corporations are not considered people and do not have the same constitutional rights as human inhabitants of Massachusetts. It grants the Massachusetts General Court the authority to regulate corporations, including their rights and activities, to promote the common good. The bill also empowers the General Court to set limits on political contributions and expenditures to ensure equitable access to the political process and prevent undue influence by wealthier individuals or entities. It mandates timely public disclosure of all contributions and expenditures to inform voters before elections while explicitly protecting the freedom of the press.</p>