

HOUSE No. 3517

By Mr. Alexander of Marblehead, petition of Lawrence R. Alexander, other members of the House and another for legislation to further regulate the campaign finance laws. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Six.

AN ACT FURTHER REGULATING THE CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAWS.

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 1 of Chapter 55 of the General Laws is
2 hereby amended by striking out the definition of "political commit-
3 tees" and inserting in place thereof the following definitions: —

4 "Person," an individual, partnership, committee, association,
5 society, corporations, labor organization, or any other organiza-
6 tion or group of persons in concert.

7 "Political committee," any person, other than an individual, or
8 any combination of persons who directly or indirectly receives
9 contributions or makes expenditures, including without limita-
10 tion, a national, regional, state, county or municipal committee.

1 SECTION 2. Section 5 of Chapter 55 of the General Laws is
2 hereby amended by striking out the first paragraph and inserting in
3 place thereof the following paragraph: —

4 Every political committee organized or operating on behalf of a
5 candidate or candidates, every political committee, a principal
6 purpose of which is to receive contributions or make expenditures,
7 and every other political committee which receives contributions
8 aggregating in excess of one thousand dollars during a calendar
9 year or which makes expenditures aggregating in excess of one
10 thousand dollars during a calendar year shall organize by filing
11 with the director or, if organized for the purpose of a city or town
12 election only, with the city or town clerk, a statement of organiza-
13 tion.

1 SECTION 3. Said section is hereby further amended by insert-
2 ing in the first sentence and the third sentence of the fifth paragraph
3 and the first sentence of the sixth paragraph before the words
4 “political committee” the word: — such.

1 SECTION 4. Chapter 55 is further amended by inserting after
2 section 18 thereof the following new sections:

3 *Section 18A.* Notwithstanding any requirements that an entity
4 be organized as a political committee pursuant to the provisions of
5 section five, no dues or assessments payable on a regular basis to
6 and no other income received by an entity in the normal course of
7 its business and not received or solicited for the purpose of making
8 contributions or making expenditures shall be required to be
9 reported as contributions to that entity under the provisions of
10 section eighteen. The fact that a contribution or expenditure is
11 made by such an entity from its own funds or property, including
12 dues or assessments payable on a regular basis to or other income
13 received by it in the normal course of its business, shall not exclude
14 such contribution or expenditure by the entity from the reporting
15 requirements of section eighteen.

16 *Section 18B.* Every person including any political committee,
17 who makes an expenditure or expenditures in an aggregate amount
18 exceeding one hundred dollars during any calendar year for the
19 purpose of promoting the election or defeat of any candidate or
20 candidates shall file with the director, or with the city or town clerk
21 if such candidate or candidates seek public office at a city or town
22 election, within seven business days after making such independent
23 expenditure or expenditures, on a form prescribed by the director,
24 a report stating the name and address of the person, including any
25 political committee, making the expenditure or expenditures; the
26 name(s) of the candidate or candidates whose election or defeat
27 the expenditures promoted; the name(s) and address(es) of the
28 person or persons to whom the expenditure or expenditures were
29 made; and the total amount or value, the purpose(s) and the date(s)
30 of the expenditure or expenditures.

31 For the purposes of this section the term “independent expendi-
32 ture” means an expenditure by a person, including any political
33 committee, expressly advocating the election or defeat of a clearly

34 identified candidate which is made without cooperation or consul-
35 tation with any candidate, or a non-elected political committee
36 organized on behalf of a candidate, or any agent of a candidate,
37 and which is not made in concert with, or at the request or sugges-
38 tion of, any candidate, or any non-elected political committee
39 organized on behalf of a candidate or agent of such candidate.

1 SECTION 5. If any provision of this act, or its application to
2 any person or any set of circumstances, is held to be invalid or
3 unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such hold-
4 ing shall not affect any other provision of this act or the application
5 of the provision in question to any other person, facts or
6 circumstances.

The first part of the history of the
country is a description of the
land and the people. The second part
is a description of the government
and the laws. The third part is a
description of the religion and the
customs. The fourth part is a
description of the commerce and the
industry. The fifth part is a
description of the military and the
navy. The sixth part is a
description of the arts and the
sciences. The seventh part is a
description of the literature and the
philosophy. The eighth part is a
description of the history of the
country. The ninth part is a
description of the present state of
the country. The tenth part is a
description of the future of the
country.