

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 4372

By Mr. Businger of Brookline, petition of John A. Businger that provision be made for civil remedies for false statements in election campaigns. Election Laws.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

### AN ACT PROVIDING CIVIL REMEDIES FOR FALSE STATEMENTS IN ELECTION CAMPAIGNS.

*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 forty-two of Chapter fifty-six of the General Laws is  
2 hereby amended by deleting the third sentence thereof and insert-  
3 ing in lieu thereof the following:—

4 The supreme judicial or superior court has jurisdiction to en-  
5 force the provisions of this section upon petition of any candidate  
6 or any political committee organized for the purpose of opposing  
7 or promoting a referendum question pursuant to Chapter fifty-five  
8 of the General Laws and may, in addition to other equitable  
9 remedies, compel a person or committee found to have violated  
10 any provision of this section to pay to petitioning candidate or  
11 committee an amount of money for the production and publica-  
12 tion of a statement reasonably designed to ameliorate the effect of  
13 the false statement, said expenditure not to exceed the price of  
14 production and publication of the false statement.

By Mr. [Name] of [State], [Title], in the [Year] Session of the [Congress], on [Date], reported [Status] the following bill for the relief of [Name], in which [Details]

**The [Title] of [Subject]**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That

Section 1. [Text]

Section 2. [Text]

Section 3. [Text]

Section 4. [Text]

Section 5. [Text]

Section 6. [Text]

Section 7. [Text]