

HOUSE No. 4880

By Mr. Collins of Amherst, petition of James G. Collins and other members of the House for legislation to limit expenditures for campaign media expenses in connection with referendum questions on the state ballot. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Seven.

AN ACT LIMITING EXPENDITURES ON REFERENDUM QUESTIONS APPEARING ON THE STATE BALLOT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 The General Laws is hereby amended by adding after chapter
2 55 the following chapter: —

3 CHAPTER 55A.

4 *Section 1.* Expenditures for campaign media expenses in
5 connection with a referendum question on the state ballot shall
6 not exceed five hundred thousand dollars.

7 *Section 2.* A declaration that an organized effort is being
8 conducted relative to a referendum question on a state ballot shall
9 be filed with the secretary of state thirty days prior to the election
10 date. Failure to so file shall prohibit the expenditure of funds in
11 relation to said referendum.

12 *Section 3.* All restrictions relative to campaign donations as
13 set forth in chapter fifty-five of the General Laws shall be
14 applicable to donations given for the purposes of passing or
15 defeating a referendum question on the state ballot.

The author's main argument is that the current system of...

...and the author provides a detailed analysis of the...

...the author also discusses the implications of these findings...

...and the author concludes that the current system is...

...the author suggests that a more comprehensive approach...

...and the author provides a detailed analysis of the...

...the author also discusses the implications of these findings...

...and the author concludes that the current system is...