

By Mr. Flaherty of Cambridge, petition of Charles F. Flaherty, Jr., for legislation to provide for limited public financing of campaigns. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty.

AN ACT AMENDING THE LAW PROVIDING FOR LIMITED PUBLIC FINANCING OF 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 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1 of
2 Chapter 55A of the General Laws, as inserted by section 3 of
3 Chapter 774 of the Acts of 1975, the term "statewide elective office"
4 shall mean the office of governor with respect to the primary
5 election and lieutenant governor and governor with respect to the
6 state election for all purposes relating to the public financing of
7 campaigns for statewide elective office in 1980.

1 SECTION 2. Paragraph 1 of section 43 of Chapter 10 of the
2 General Laws, as inserted by section 1 of Chapter 774 of the Acts of
3 1975, is hereby amended by striking the words "June thirtieth" and
4 inserting in place thereof the following: — February first

1 SECTION 3. No later than March 1, 1980, the director of
2 campaign and political finance shall estimate the number of
3 candidates for statewide elective office who will qualify for public
4 financing in 1980 and shall file a request for an appropriation with
5 the general court in the amount necessary to provide funding of
6 these candidates at levels authorized by Chapter 774 of the Acts of
7 1975 after taking into consideration the balance of the state
8 election campaign fund as of February 1, 1980.

1 SECTION 4. Section 20 of Chapter 55 of the General Laws, as
 2 most recently amended by section 1 of Chapter 294 of the Acts of
 3 1977, is hereby amended by inserting after the first paragraph the
 4 following four paragraphs:—

5 For purposes of this section, the campaign media expenses
 6 limitations placed on a candidate, and which will be reported by
 7 him, shall include only such liabilities incurred, or expenditures
 8 made, on behalf of a candidate, by a candidate, a non-elected
 9 political committee organized on his behalf, or by any other person
 10 who acted with the prior knowledge and consent of said candidate.

11 No candidate for election to the following public offices of the
 12 commonwealth who receives limited public financing under
 13 chapter 55A shall incur liabilities or make expenditures for
 14 campaign media expenses for use in the calendar year of a state
 15 election or special election in excess of the following amounts:

16 Governor — Lieutenant Governor	\$500,000
17 Attorney General	\$250,000
18 Secretary	\$100,000
19 Treasurer and Receiver General	\$100,000
20 Auditor	\$100,000

21 No candidate for nomination to the following public offices of
 22 the commonwealth who receives limited public financing under
 23 chapter 55A shall incur liabilities or make expenditures for
 24 campaign media expenses for use in the calendar year of a state
 25 primary election in excess of the following amounts:

26 Governor	\$500,000
27 Lieutenant Governor	\$100,000
28 Attorney General	\$250,000
29 Secretary	\$100,000
30 Treasurer and Receiver General	\$100,000
31 Auditor	\$100,000

32 Candidates who are required to designate a depository by
 33 section nineteen, and for whom there have been established
 34 campaign media expense limitation by this section, shall file an
 35 accounting of their campaign media expenses with the director in
 36 the year of the election, on or before: (1) the tenth day of March
 37 and June, the eighth day preceding a primary, the eighth day

38 preceding a biennial state election, and the tenth day of January in
39 the following year complete as to the thirty-first day of December
40 of the prior year: (2) the thirtieth day and the eighth day preceding
41 a special primary, including a convention or a caucus, the eighth
42 day preceding a special election, and tenth day of January of the
43 following year complete as to the thirty-first day of December of
44 the prior year.

1 SECTION 5. Section 32 of said chapter 55, as most recently
2 amended by section 2 of said chapter 294, is hereby amended by
3 inserting after the second clause the following clause:—

4 Knowingly expending as a candidate for elective office any sum
5 for campaign expenses in excess of the maximum set forth for the
6 office in section twenty.

1 SECTION 6. Section 8 of chapter 55A of the general laws, as
2 inserted by section 3 of chapter 774 of the Acts of 1975, is hereby
3 amended by inserting after the word “held” in the second sentence
4 thereof the following: — and the next following year.

