

By Mr. Businger of Brookline, petition of John A. Businger relative to defining the responsibility for the Campaign Finance Director in initiating legal proceedings against violators of the campaign finance law. Election Laws.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty.

AN ACT DEFINING THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CAMPAIGN FINANCE DIRECTOR IN INITIATING LEGAL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST VIOLATORS OF THE CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAW.

*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 2A of chapter 55 of the General Laws, as appearing in  
2 section 1 of chapter 1173 of the acts of 1973, is hereby amended  
3 by striking out the last paragraph and inserting in place thereof  
4 the following paragraph:— In the event that the director finds  
5 evidence of a violation of this chapter, he shall have the right to  
6 initiate prosecution and to engage special counsel for the purpose  
7 thereof. The director shall, upon finding evidence of such  
8 violation of this chapter, inform any person or committee under  
9 investigation by said director, by registered mail, return receipt  
10 requested, that he will present such evidence to his special  
11 counsel. Within ten days of receipt of said notice, said alleged  
12 violator may request a hearing before the director for the purpose  
13 of presenting evidence to the contrary. The director shall not  
14 initiate any legal action until after said hearing. Evidence of any  
15 such violations of this chapter which has come to his attention  
16 shall be presented by the director to his special counsel only after  
17 the relevant election, as defined in section one of this chapter, but  
18 within two years after said election.

