HOUSE DOCKET, NO. FILED ON: 1/13/2009

**HOUSE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . No.**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

PRESENTED BY:

**Bradley H. Jones, Jr.**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General
 Court assembled:*

 The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act establishing a cap on candidates' committees campaign funds.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

PETITION OF:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name: | District/Address: |
| Bradley H. Jones, Jr. | 20th Middlesex |
| Viriato Manuel deMacedo | 1st Plymouth |
| George N. Peterson, Jr. | 9th Worcester |
| Elizabeth Poirier | 14th Bristol |

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the Year Two Thousand and Nine**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

An Act establishing a cap on candidates' committees campaign funds.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1 of chapter 55 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the definition of “Political party committee” the following definition:-

“Surplus funds”, any funds remaining in the depository account of a candidate’s committee in excess of $30,000 for a candidate for state representative and $100,000 for a candidate for state senate.

SECTION 2: Section 19 of chapter 55 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after subsection (f) the following subsection:-

(g) Within 60 days after the conclusion of an election, the candidate’s committee shall be required to dispose of surplus funds: (1) in accordance with campaign finance laws as established in chapter 55; (2) by returning the remaining funds proportionally to all donors; or (3) through donation to a charitable organization.