

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Jennifer M. Callahan

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 relative to legislative ethics.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Jennifer M. Callahan

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

18th Worcester

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT RELATIVE TO LEGISLATIVE ETHICS.

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.** Section 43 of chapter 3 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official
2 Edition, is hereby amended by striking out in lines 5 and 6 the words “all campaign contributions as
3 defined in section one of chapter fifty five”.

4

5 **SECTION 2.** The last paragraph of said section 43 of said chapter 3, as so appearing is hereby amended
6 by adding the following sentence:-

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8 No executive or legislative agent shall make a campaign contribution as defined in section 1 of chapter
9 55.

10

11 **SECTION 3.** Chapter 3 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 43 the following
12 section:-

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14 Section 43A. All members of the ethics committee of the general court shall receive in depth education
15 and training on ethics’ law, interviewing skills and investigatory procedures. All actions of said
16 committees shall be made public, including but not limited to advisory opinions. The ethics committees
17 shall conduct an education and training seminar for members of the general court at the
18 commencement of each session. Issues beyond the scope of professional expertise or legislative rules
19 shall be referred to the appropriate resources.

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21 **SECTION 4.** Section 7L of chapter 29 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding
22 the following sentence:-

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24 A law making an appropriation for expenses of the commonwealth shall not contain any earmarks.

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26 **SECTION 5.** Chapter 268B of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 4 the
27 following section:-

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29 Section 4A. A member of the general court who holds a leadership position or chairmanship who is fined
30 under section 4 shall immediately forfeit such position or chairmanship.

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