

*Commonwealth of Massachusetts*  
*Office of Campaign and Political Finance*

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## **Independent expenditures for candidates reach almost \$4 million in 2006**

Organizations and individuals spent just under \$4 million in independent expenditures to support or oppose candidates for state office this year, according to figures released today by the Office of Campaign and Political Finance.

A total of \$3,995,453 was disclosed in statements filed with the office by those making the expenditures before the Sept. 19 primary and the Nov. 7 general elections. The 358 expenditures reported were made to support or oppose a total of 87 candidates, including two running for governor.

Independent expenditures, as defined by Section 18A of the Massachusetts campaign finance law, are made by individuals or organizations that are not political committees for the purpose of expressly advocating the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate or candidates. They are made without cooperation or consultation with any candidate or campaign, and are therefore not considered contributions subject to statutory limitation. Nevertheless, such expenditures must be disclosed to OCPF if they exceed \$100 in a calendar year.

Three unions accounted for the vast majority of the expenditures, totaling \$3,888,737, or 97 percent of the total. The Massachusetts Teachers Association reported spending the most, \$2,501,748. A Boston-based unit of the Service Employees International Union, 1199 SEIU United Healthcare Workers East, spent \$1,150,696, while the Massachusetts Nurses Association spent \$167,863.

The bulk of the teachers' group's expenditures were made up of a single media buy of \$2,287,424 to support Democratic gubernatorial nominee Deval Patrick. The MTA, which has made independent expenditures in past elections, spent another \$214,324 to support Patrick, who won the election, and an additional \$68,430 concerning eight candidates for the Legislature. Of those candidates, all were Democrats, and all but one were elected.

Of the \$1.1 million spent by SEIU, well over half, or \$770,841, supported Patrick in the general election. The union had also spent \$231,750 in favor of another Democratic gubernatorial candidate, Thomas Reilly, before the September primary. The remaining \$148,104

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went toward 51 legislative candidates, all of whom were Democrats and all but two of whom were elected.

The nurses association made a single expenditure of \$92,745 for Patrick and his running mate, Worcester Mayor Timothy Murray, with the remaining \$75,118 supporting 67 legislative candidates. The candidates included four Republicans and three candidates who lost their elections.

Two additional groups, both unions, reported independent expenditures of more than \$25,000. The Massachusetts AFL-CIO spent \$51,508, all of it for Patrick, and UNITE HERE Local 26, representing textile, laundry and hotel workers, spent \$37,814 for Reilly.

Of the remaining \$17,394 in expenditures, \$5,200 was spent by organizations and \$12,194 was spent by individuals. The individual totals concerned legislative candidates with one exception: \$1,510 spent by Raymond Rogers of New York to oppose Patrick. Rogers represented a group that has opposed the Coca-Cola Co., of which Patrick had been general counsel.

The bulk of the reported expenditures concerned the candidacy of Patrick and Murray: \$3,418,681, or 85 percent of the total. All but the expenditures of Rogers noted above were in favor of the Democrat's candidacy.

The figures in this study include only those disclosed by individuals, groups and associations in filings of Form CPF 18A with OCPF. They do not include the following types of expenditures:

- Independent expenditures by groups for advertisements or literature that refers to a candidate but does not expressly urge the election or defeat of the candidate, also known as "issue ads." Such advertisements, including those made by organizations organized under Section 527 of federal tax code, are not subject to disclosure under the Massachusetts campaign finance law.
- Independent expenditures by political committees, which are not reported in the same manner as the activity in this report. Such committee expenditures are disclosed in the regular campaign finance reports a committee files with OCPF, not the Form 18A used by individuals and organizations.
- Expenditures by party committees concerning candidates. While parties may make independent expenditures, they are also free to consult with candidates on their activity because they may make unlimited in-kind contributions to candidates, such as advertising. Party support of candidates is more likely to be reported in the form of in-kind contributions rather than independent expenditures.

The 18A forms filed by each individual or organization may be found on OCPF's website, at [www.mass.gov/ocpf](http://www.mass.gov/ocpf).

*A summary table of independent expenditure activity follows.*

## Independent Expenditures by Individuals and Organizations 2006 State Election

	Total spent	Spent on Deval Patrick/ Timothy Murray	Spent on legislative candidates	Spent on Thomas Reilly
<i>Spending by organizations</i>				
Mass. Teachers Association	\$2,570,178.37	\$2,501,748.23	\$ 68,430.14	
1199 SEIU	1,150,695.51	770,840.90	148,104.23	\$231,750.38
Mass. Nurses Association	167,863.21	92,745.16	75,118.05	
Mass. AFL-CIO	51,507.92	51,507.92		
UNITE HERE Local 26*	37,814.26			37,814.26
Parents Rights Coalition	2,420.26		2,420.26	
Educational Association of Worcester	1,714.44	328.89	1,385.55	
Plymouth/Bristol Central Labor Council	1,065.33**			
<b><i>Organizations total</i></b>	<b>\$3,983,259.30</b>			
<i>Spending by individuals</i>				
	<b>\$12,194.03</b>	<b>\$1,510.07</b>	<b>\$10,683.96</b>	
<b><i>TOTAL</i></b>	<b>\$3,995,453.33</b>	<b>\$3,418,681.17</b>	<b>\$306,142.19</b>	<b>\$269,564.26</b>

\* Formerly the Union of Needletrades, Industrial and Textile Employees and Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees International Union.

\*\* Expenditure was for a single advertisement endorsing 16 candidates: 5 statewide, including Patrick, and 12 legislative candidates.