

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Office of Campaign and Political Finance

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Statewide candidates file spending limit statements for public financing program

BOSTON – Fifteen candidates who are seeking their parties' nominations for statewide office have filed statements saying whether they intend to limit their spending in the 2010 primary and general elections, the Office of Campaign and Political Finance announced today.

Six of those candidates agreed by the 5 p.m. deadline yesterday to abide by the statutory spending limits. The declarations, which candidates were required to file in order to get on the ballot, are binding for both the primary and general elections. (Unenrolled candidates must file their statements by Aug. 31, which is the deadline for them to file their nomination papers with the Secretary of the Commonwealth).

Under the state's public financing program, gubernatorial candidates that agree to limit spending are eligible to receive funds first. Both Gov. Deval Patrick (D) and Charlie Baker (R) did not agree to limit spending in their races and do not have primary opposition, so funds available for the primary election will now be available to candidates for Auditor and Treasurer that did agree to limit spending and are facing opponents in their primary that did not agree to limit spending to the statutory amount.

These declarations mean that three contested statewide primary races are subject to spending limits (Democratic in the race for treasurer and Democratic and Republicans in the race for auditor). Candidates who declined to participate in the public funding program must file a statement of maximum expenditures by June 4 for their primary election campaign. Participating candidates will then have their expenditure limit raised to the highest amount stated by a primary opponent.

The state's system of public financing offers public funds (depending on availability) to statewide candidates in return for their agreeing to spending limits, which vary according to the office sought. For example, participating state auditor and treasurer candidates agree to limit their expenditures to \$375,000 for the primary campaign (June 2 – Sept. 14) and \$375,000 for the general election campaign (Sept. 15 – Nov. 2). In return, those candidates are eligible for up to \$187,500 for each of the two campaign periods.

The amount of money in the State Election Campaign Fund that will be available to participating candidates will be determined at the end of June. OCPF estimates the amount of available funds at about \$1.5 million, to be divided evenly between the primary and general election campaigns.

In 2006, three candidates for governor received funds totaling \$1,344,226. The bulk of the money that year went to Democratic gubernatorial candidate Deval Patrick, who received \$806,844 – half for the primary and half for the general election. No funds were available for any other candidate for statewide office in 2006.

More information on the public financing program may be found on the front page of OCPF's Web site at www.mass.gov/ocpf.

A table of each candidate's decision regarding public financing follows.

Participation in Public Financing

2010 Statewide Candidates

<u><i>Office/Limit</i></u>	<u><i>Agreed to limits</i></u>	<u><i>Did not agree</i></u>
Governor (\$1.5 million primary/ \$1.5 million general)		Charles Baker (R) Deval Patrick (D)
Lieutenant Governor (\$625,000 primary)		Timothy Murray (D) Richard Tisei (R)
Attorney General (\$625,000 primary/ \$625,000 general)	Martha Coakley (D)	
Treasurer (\$375,000 primary/ \$375,000 general)	Stephen Murphy (D)	Steve Grossman (D)* Karyn Polito (R)
Secretary (\$375,000 primary/ \$375,000 general)	William Campbell (R)	William Galvin (D)
Auditor (\$375,000 primary/ \$375,000 general)	Suzanne Bump (D) Mary Connaughton (R) Michael Lake (D)	Guy Glodis (D)* Kamal Jain (R)*

*These non-participating candidates, who are opposed by at least one participating candidate in the primary, must file a statement with OCPF stating their total expenditures for the primary campaign. Those statements are due by the close of business on June 4.

Note: Unenrolled candidates, who do not run in a primary, must notify OCPF whether they will abide by spending limits by Aug. 31.