

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Office of Campaign and Political Finance

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 20, 2000

CONTACT: Denis Kennedy
Director of Public Information
(617) 727-8352 / (800) 462-6273

Legislative campaign finance reports are now on the Web

Campaign finance reports filed by candidates for the Massachusetts House and Senate are now available on the Internet.

The Office of Campaign and Political Finance announced today that it has placed images of the full reports filed by legislative candidates on its web site, OCPF Online, at www.state.ma.us/ocpf. The direct link to the reports, which number more than 300, is <http://www.state.ma.us/ocpf/images/imagestart.html>.

The images are of the entire reports as filed on the first deadline of the year on Sept. 11. Reports for the other two deadlines this year, Oct. 30 and Jan. 22, will be posted as quickly as possible.

The reports are listed both alphabetically and by legislative district. A link to the Secretary of the Commonwealth's web site allows visitors to determine which communities are in any particular district.

While the imaged reports are complete as filed, they will not include any subsequent amendments or correspondence, such as requests by OCPF for additional information or later filings by a committee.

OCPF also plans to post reports from state ballot question committees by the end of this month. Those committees file reports twice a month, on the 5th and 20th, through Nov. 20.

Current law requires candidates and committees to file paper reports with original signatures. However, that will change in the 2002 election, when most reports will be filed electronically as well as on paper and information will be available on the Web that same day.

-- MORE --

OCPF Director Michael J. Sullivan called the availability of legislative reports a great step forward in OCPF's effort to expand its online information.

"Having no online availability of these reports was a great impediment to full disclosure. Posting the images now allows anyone in the Commonwealth, in fact anywhere in the world, to review some of the most requested reports without having to come to Boston," Sullivan said.

Information regarding statewide candidates has been available online since 1998. OCPF's Contributor Information Database includes contributors as listed on reports filed by candidates for the six statewide offices, including incumbents.

-- END --