

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

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FEC - MASSACHUSETTS EXPAND COMPUTERIZED ELECTION DATA

WASHINGTON--Expanded Federal campaign finance data providing more complete public disclosure is being made available by the Federal Election Commission through the Massachusetts Secretary of the Commonwealth's computer terminal in Boston.

This information, which is updated daily, is available to reporters and interested citizens through a working arrangement between the FEC and Secretary of the Commonwealth Michael J. Connolly. Massachusetts is one of eight states presently participating in the computer access program.

For the first time, the state computer access system will include an index providing an alphabetical listing of individuals making contributions of \$500 or more, including in-kind contributions and loans made, endorsed or guaranteed in the 1983-84 and 1985-86 election cycles.

In addition, the system provides computer information from both election cycles through: 1) an index which cross-references all records, including receipts and disbursements relating to individual candidates, all political action committee and party committee contributions, all independent expenditures and extra party spending; 2) an index which includes the name of each political committee, its FEC identification number, a list of each document filed, total gross receipts and disbursements; and 3) an index which includes for each political committee its connected organization, a notation if it is "qualified" as a multi-candidate committee and a list of all Federal candidates supported, together with total aggregate contributions to or expenditures on behalf of or against individual candidates.

The Federal Election Commission is the only source of all Federal campaign finance reports filed by Congressional and Presidential candidates, PAC's, political parties, committees making independent expenditures, and communication costs made by corporations and labor unions. Much of this information is captured by the FEC on its computerized data base, and it is data from this base that is being made available through the state access program.
