

HOUSE No. 3980

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Thomas M. Stanley

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 relating to prohibiting gifts from lobbyists.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Thomas M. Stanley

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

9th Middlesex

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT RELATING TO PROHIBITING GIFTS FROM LOBBYISTS.

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 3 of chapter 268A, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
2 striking out clauses (a) and (b) and inserting in place thereof the following 2 clauses:-
3 (a) Whoever, otherwise than as provided by law for the proper discharge of his official
4 duties, directly or indirectly gives, offers, or promises anything of substantial value to any
5 present or former state, county, or municipal employee or to any member of the judiciary,
6 or to any person selected to be such an employee or member of the judiciary for or
7 because of the employee's official position; or
8 (b) Whoever, being a present or former state, county, or municipal employee or member
9 of the judiciary, or person selected to be such an employee or member of the judiciary,
10 otherwise than as provided by law for the proper discharge of his official duties, directly
11 or indirectly asks, demands, exacts, solicits, seeks, accepts, receives, or agrees to receive
12 anything of substantial value for himself for or because of the employee's official
13 position; or.
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15 **SECTION 2.** Section 3 of chapter 268A, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by
16 adding the following paragraph:-
17 The commission shall adopt regulations: (i) defining "substantial value," provided
18 however that "substantial value" shall not be less than \$50; (ii) establishing exclusions
19 for ceremonial gifts; (iii) establishing exclusions for gifts given solely because of family
20 or friendship; and (iv) establishing additional exclusions for other situations that do not
21 present a genuine risk of a conflict or the appearance of a conflict of interest.
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