



General Assembly

February Session, 2004

**Raised Bill No. 5168**

LCO No. 1150

\*01150\_\_\_\_\_GAE\*

Referred to Committee on Government Administration and Elections

Introduced by:  
(GAE)

**AN ACT AUTHORIZING MUNICIPALITIES TO ESTABLISH PROGRAMS FOR THE PUBLIC FINANCING OF CAMPAIGNS FOR ELECTION TO MUNICIPAL OFFICES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2004*) Notwithstanding the  
2 provisions of section 7-192a of the general statutes, any municipality  
3 may, by ordinance, establish (1) a voluntary program for the public  
4 financing of campaigns of candidates for election to the offices of chief  
5 executive officer of the municipality, municipal clerk, and member of  
6 the legislative body of the municipality, who agree to limit campaign  
7 fund-raising and expenditures, and (2) a commission to administer and  
8 enforce such program. The municipality shall pay the costs of  
9 administering and enforcing such program. Any such ordinance shall  
10 be subject to the provisions of chapter 150 of the general statutes and  
11 shall not contain provisions that are less restrictive than the provisions  
12 of said chapter 150. A candidate for any such office who decides not to  
13 participate in such program shall be subject to the provisions of  
14 chapter 150. Any such public financing shall not be deemed to be  
15 public funds for the purposes of subsection (d) of section 9-333l of the

16 general statutes, as amended.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	July 1, 2004

**Statement of Purpose:**

To authorize municipalities to establish programs for the public financing of municipal campaigns, thereby promoting political autonomy, efficiency and political equality, preventing political corruption, enhancing the quality of representation, increasing voter knowledge and improving the quality of democratic discourse.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*