

**Senate Committee Hearing
on HB794 Amendment March 19, 2008**

My name is Doris Haddock and I live on 173 Cobb Meadow Road in Dublin, N. H., I have been given a few minutes to give you an overview of where public funding is in N. H. and why it is needed where there is no known corruption, but where we do not wish any to develop. It is costing more to run for office each election and is getting so that there is less and less incentive for a person of limited means to consider running for office. We are losing our Democracy.

The HB794 amendment we are asking you to pass today is to be sent to a seven-man commission for a study to be completed by December 31, 2009 and we believe they will find a means of funding the system without touching general funds.

It was my personal belief that we needed to educate our populace about how Public Funding worked. In 2007 I personally took a poll of House, Senate and Governor's

Council members: 95 members said they would support such a bill. 94 would be inclined to 141 would approve it depending on how it would be funded. 45 would not be inclined to support it and 25 would oppose it. This looked pretty good to me so next I visited each one of the 20 county chair monthly meetings both Republic and the Democratic, from those around where I lived then all the way up to Coos and down to Nashua. I was well received in all of them.

Since then we have developed a coalition that includes my group Public Action for clean Elections, N. H. League of Women Voters, Americans for Campaign Reform, N. H. Citizen's Alliance, and a dozen or so individuals.

During this past year we have been working for Jim Splaine and his committee coming here to meet in Concord and Sam Mkrut has taken charge of our group, and has strategized our movements so we come to you prepared to do whatever we can do further to help you in your decision.

Many states around the country are working

on Public Funding and I have been to many of them. I have placed a map on the wall showing where each state stands. The bright blue states indicate places where a law of significance to do with Public Funding was passed during the last year.

I believe that N. :H. wil become a model for the other state to follow and when sufficient states have accepted this ystem a critrical mass will form and it will go federal, as many of our good laws have done. When that happens John Rauh with his federal bill will be there to take over. We are making history today ladies and gentlmen. Please vote for this amendment which will be a small step toward changing th way our country's eelections are funded and you will be making a contribution toward saving the world. When you are my age you will sit and smile as you think about it for you will know that you did the right thing.