

# HELP PUT QUESTION X for REAL DEMOCRACY on the BALLOT in 2008

When QUESTION X is on the state ballot, voters will be able to vote YES or NO on the following one-sentence question:

*“Shall the state representative from this district be instructed to vote in favor of a proposal to amend the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to replace the General Court of Massachusetts (i.e. the state Legislature) with 100 randomly selected adult residents of the Commonwealth each serving just a one year term, designated the **Commonwealth Jury**, that will have all the legislative and other powers of the current General Court?”*

[The Attorney General's office has given informal approval of the wording of this question.]

Presently our so-called "representatives" must curry the favor of Big Money in order to get the large campaign donations and favorable coverage in the corporate-controlled media that are required to win an election today. These politicians don't represent us. "Yes," some would say, "but they are experts at writing laws." But that is exactly the problem. The kind of laws they are expert at writing are intended to make our society be the way Big Money wants it to be: unequal, undemocratic and in the service of the big corporations.

In contrast, ordinary people chosen at random, **like a jury**, would be more truly representative of Massachusetts residents; they would be beholden to nobody, and far more expert in making society more equal and democratic and fair. Ordinary people want our society to be one where people help each other instead of being made to compete against one another for good jobs and education that the corporations keep artificially scarce. Putting government decisions in the hands of ordinary residents chosen this way would be a lot more democratic.

We do not have real democracy; much of what is wrong in our society stems from not having real democracy and we ought to do whatever it takes to get it.

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?** To put Question X on the ballot in your state representative district it takes only 200 signatures, collected on an official form, starting April 22, 2008 and submitted no later than July 9, 2008 (earlier is better because only a limited number of questions can go on the ballot.)

Do you want to volunteer to help collect these signatures? If so, please let me know:

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For more details about this proposal see  
<http://commonwealthjury.blogspot.com>