

Interested in documentaries? Click here to view our latest free screening.

TEXT SIZE | MANAGE ACCOUNT | LOG OUT

# The Boston Globe

NEWS	METRO
THE TALK	CAPITAL
SPORTS	OPINION
POLITICS	LIFESTYLE
MAGAZINE	INSIDERS
TODAY'S PAPER	

## Super PACs spent heavily during first statewide election

E-MAIL FACEBOOK TWITTER GOOGLE LINKEDIN

0

By **Matt Rocheleau**

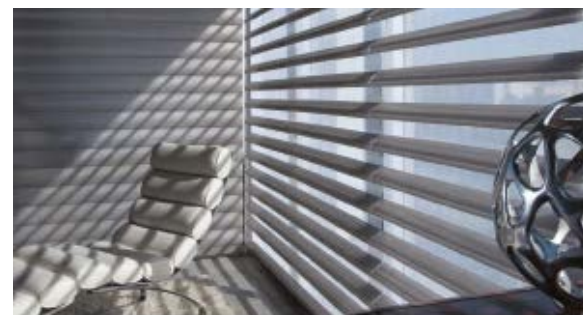
GLOBE STAFF MARCH 27, 2015

In Massachusetts' first statewide election in which Super PACs played a role, the groups spent more money on the finalists for governor than the two candidates spent themselves, and the bulk of the investment went toward opposing, not supporting, the gubernatorial candidates.

Of the \$20.4 million that independent entities spent on the 2014 election, \$19.2 million came from Super PACs, according to a report released Friday by the state Office of Campaign and Political Finance. During the last, pre-Super PAC statewide election in 2010, independent entities spent far less: \$11.5 million.

Super PACs formed after a 2010 Supreme Court decision cleared the way for outside groups to raise and spend unlimited amounts of money as long as they do not coordinate efforts with a candidate. On the other hand, standard PACs, or political action committees, and candidates face certain limitations on how much they can give and receive.

While both of last year's gubernatorial finalists received



HunterDouglas

celebration of  
**Light**  
series  
series  
series

**SAVE \$100<sup>OR MORE</sup> WITH REBATES**  
on qualifying purchases of  
Hunter Douglas window fashions

May 5 – June 30, 2015 [LEARN MORE](#)

substantial benefit from Super PAC spending, much more advantage went toward Republican Governor Charlie Baker than to rival, Democrat Martha Coakley, the report found.

More than \$11 million was spent by Super PACs to benefit Baker, while about \$6.5 million was spent to enhance Coakley's chances.

However, Super PAC spending aimed at benefiting one candidate or the other was more often spent in an adversarial manner.

More than three-quarters of the \$17.5 million that Super PACs spent on the finalists went toward opposing one of the candidates, according to the report.

Two groups accounted for most of Super PAC spending.

The Commonwealth Future IEPAC, which received virtually all of its funding from the Republican Governors Association, spent \$10.4 million to benefit Baker, the report said.

The Mass IEPAC spent \$6.25 million to benefit Coakley and raised its money from the Democratic Governors Association, labor unions, individuals, and a political action committee that supports pro-choice female Democrats.

On their own, the Baker and Coakley campaigns spent about \$6.8 million and \$5.9 million, respectively, when accounting for in-kind contributions, the report said.

## Fundraising and spending by Super PACs in 2014 election

The top two groups accounted for most of Super PAC spending in last year's statewide election

Super PAC	Gov. finalist benefited	Received	Spent
Commonwealth Future IEPAC	Charlie Baker	\$10,770,000	\$10,400,000
Mass IEPAC	Martha Coakley	\$7,008,855	\$6,253,003
Mass Teachers Association IEPAC	Martha Coakley	\$3,645,199	\$2,714,604*

Mass Forward IEPAC	None	\$766,637	\$753,991
America Comeback Committee IEPAC	Charlie Baker	\$596,256	\$596,216
Mass Realtor IEPAC	None	\$216,582	\$216,482
Jobs First IEPAC	None	\$219,502	\$193,806
Democrats for Education Reform IEPAC	None	\$150,081	\$176,734
Mass Women Vote IEPAC	Martha Coakley	\$144,255	\$144,255
Mass Values IEPAC	None	\$105,000	\$125,036
National Association of Government Employees IEPAC	Martha Coakley	\$150,000	\$125,000
Strong Economy MA IEPAC	Charlie Baker	\$5,100	\$600
Global Warming Solutions IEPAC	None	\$27,386	\$2,600
<b>Totals</b>	-	<b>\$23,804,853</b>	<b>\$19,208,372</b>

**DATA: Massachusetts Office of Campaign and Political Finance**

**\*Of this amount, \$2,499,355 was contributed to the Mass IEPAC and Mass Values IEPAC and therefore is not included in the overall total for Super PAC spending**

MATT ROCHELEAU/GLOBE STAFF

*Matt Rocheleau can be reached at [matthew.rocheleau@globe.com](mailto:matthew.rocheleau@globe.com). Follow him on Twitter [@mrochele](https://twitter.com/mrochele)*



Get **Today's Headlines** from the Globe in your inbox:

[Privacy Policy](#)

0 COMMENTS

You can now read 5 articles in a month for free on BostonGlobe.com. Read as much as you want anywhere and anytime for just 99¢.

[SUBSCRIBE](#) [LOG IN](#)

**The Boston Globe**

NEWS

METRO

ARTS	BUSINESS
SPORTS	OPINION

## Top 10 Trending Articles

Most Viewed

Most Commented

Most Shared

Marco Flores: The boy who burned inside

After week in jail, Florida mom agrees to son's circumcision

Robert Kraft chose legacy over Patriots

Patriots come with baggage for fans

Medical marijuana patient files discrimination complaint o...

Moving up and out of poverty

### Learn more

Parents of transgender children on acceptance, support, an...

SUBSCRIBE BOSTON GLOBE INSIDERS

Vote all you want. The secret government won't change.

MY ACCOUNT

LOGOUT

Why we're healthier in the summer, sicker in the winter

MANAGE MY ACCOUNT

DOWNLOAD CUSTOMER SERVICE APP

Local Irish-Americans laud Ireland's vote to legalize gay m...

### SOCIAL

FACEBOOK

TWITTER

GOOGLE+

MEDIA

