

its taking effect, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

G. L. (Ter. Ed.), 254, new § 30, added.

Recording of certain liens and notices.

Effective date.

SECTION 1. Chapter 254 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding at the end the following section:— *Section 30.* All liens for labor and notices of contract, and instruments pertaining thereto, filed as provided for in this chapter, shall be recorded by the register of deeds, who shall enter the names of the parties affected thereby in the grantor and grantee indexes.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on July first, nineteen hundred and fifty-three. *Approved May 25, 1953.*

*Chap. 406* AN ACT PROVIDING FOR STATE CONVENTIONS OF POLITICAL PARTIES FOR THE ENDORSEMENT FOR NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR OFFICES TO BE FILLED BY ALL THE VOTERS OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

G. L. (Ter. Ed.), 52, § 9, etc., amended.

State committee to fix number of delegates to state conventions.

G. L. (Ter. Ed.), 53, § 2, etc., amended.

Nominations, how made.

SECTION 1. Section 9 of chapter 52 of the General Laws, as amended by section 1 of chapter 337 of the acts of 1941, is hereby further amended by striking out the first sentence and inserting in place thereof the following sentence:— The state committee shall fix the number of delegates to the state convention in accordance with section fifty-four of chapter fifty-three, to be chosen by the ward and town committees.

SECTION 2. Section 2 of chapter 53 of the General Laws, as most recently amended by section 2 of said chapter 337 of the acts of 1941, is hereby further amended by inserting after the word “provides”, in line 4, the words:— and except as provided in section fifty-four,— so as to read as follows:— *Section 2.* Except in the case of municipal nominations where a city charter or a law applying specially to a particular town otherwise provides and except as provided in section fifty-four, candidates of political parties for all elective offices, except presidential elector, shall be nominated, and delegates and alternate delegates to national conventions and members of political committees, except as provided in sections one and four of chapter fifty-two, shall be elected, in primaries or caucuses, and the nomination of any party other than a political party, in any district containing more than one ward or town, shall be made by a convention of delegates chosen by caucuses held under section one hundred and seventeen in the wards and towns of the district for which the nomination is to be made. All nominations and elections in primaries and caucuses shall be by direct plurality vote. No candidates shall be nominated, and no member of a political committee or convention delegate elected, in any other manner than is provided in this chapter or chapter fifty-two.

SECTION 3. Said chapter 53 is hereby further amended by striking out section 34, as most recently amended by section 13 of chapter 334 of the acts of 1943, and inserting in place thereof the following section:— *Section 34.* At the top of each ballot shall be printed the words “Official ballot of the (here shall follow the party name)”. On the back of each ballot when folded shall be printed the same words, followed by the number of the precinct and ward or the name of the town for which the ballot is prepared, the date of the primary and for state primaries a facsimile of the signature of the state secretary and for city or town primaries a facsimile of the signature of the city or town clerk. Names of candidates for each elective office shall be arranged alphabetically according to their surnames except as otherwise provided. Names of candidates to be voted for by all the voters of the commonwealth, endorsed for nomination by a state convention, shall be placed first. Next in order the names of candidates for such offices of which they are the elected incumbents and next the names of all other candidates for such offices in alphabetical order.

G. L. (Ter. Ed.), 53, § 34, etc., amended.

Ballots, substance, arrangement of names, form.

Names of candidates for nomination for all other offices to be voted for at a state primary of which they are the elected incumbents shall be placed first in alphabetical order and names of other candidates shall follow in like order.

Names of candidates for state committees shall be arranged in accordance with the provisions of section seventeen A.

Names of candidates for ward or town committees and for delegates to national conventions shall be arranged in groups in such order as may be determined by lot, under the direction of the state secretary, who shall notify each state committee and give a representative of each such committee an opportunity to be present. When necessary, groups may be printed on the ballot in two or more columns.

Arrangement in groups, regulated.

Against the name of a candidate for an elective office, for delegate or alternate delegate to a national convention, for a ward or town committee, or for state committee, shall be printed the street and number, if any, of his residence.

Against the name of a candidate for an elective office shall be printed the statement contained in the nomination paper placing him in nomination, or, if endorsed for nomination by a state convention, the statement, “Endorsed by (name of political party) convention”, together with the eight word statement authorized by section forty-five, except where vacancies caused by death, withdrawal or physical disability are filled.

Except where vacancies caused by death, withdrawal or physical disability are filled, no names shall be printed on a ballot other than those endorsed for nomination by state conventions and those presented on nomination papers. Immediately following the names of candidates on ballots at city and town primaries, blank spaces equal to the num-

ber of persons to be chosen shall be provided for the insertion of other names. Immediately following the names of candidates on ballots at state and presidential primaries, where there are fewer names than there are persons to be chosen, blank spaces shall be provided, equal in number to the deficiency, for the insertion of other names.

The number of persons to be voted for for the different offices shall be stated on the ballot.

The form of ballots and the arrangement of printed matter thereon shall be in general the same as that of the official state ballots, except as otherwise provided in this chapter.

G. L. (Ter. Ed.), 53, § 42, etc., amended.

Grouping of wards, precincts, for state primaries, regulated.

SECTION 4. Said chapter 53 is hereby further amended by striking out section 42, as most recently amended by section 1 of chapter 373 of the acts of 1938, and inserting in place thereof the following section:—*Section 42.* In cities or towns where the aldermen or selectmen determine the question of holding state primaries by wards, precincts or groups of precincts, they shall give notice of their determination to the state secretary on or before June first; except that in the case of primaries before special elections they shall give such notice at least twenty-one days before the primaries.

G. L. (Ter. Ed.), 53, § 44, etc., amended.

Nomination of candidates for state-wide offices, regulated.

SECTION 5. Said chapter 53 is hereby further amended by striking out section 44, as most recently amended by chapter 221 of the acts of 1952, and inserting in place thereof the following section:—*Section 44.* The nomination of candidates for nomination at state primaries shall be by nomination papers or by endorsement for nomination by state convention as provided in section fifty-four. In the case of offices to be filled by all the voters of the commonwealth, nomination papers shall be signed in the aggregate by at least twenty-five hundred voters, not more than five hundred of the total number required to be from any one county. Such papers for all other offices to be filled at a state election shall be signed by a number of voters equal in the aggregate to five voters for each ward and each town in the district or county, but in no case shall more than two hundred and fifty be required.

G. L. (Ter. Ed.), 53, § 43, etc., amended.

Last day for filing certain nomination papers, established.

SECTION 6. Section 48 of said chapter 53, as most recently amended by chapter 332 of the acts of 1951, is hereby further amended by striking out the first paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:—All nomination papers of candidates to be voted on at state and presidential primaries shall be filed with the state secretary on or before the seventh Tuesday preceding the day of the primaries, except in the case of primaries before special elections, when nomination papers shall be filed on or before the third Tuesday preceding the day of the primaries.

G. L. (Ter. Ed.), 53, § 54, etc., amended.

SECTION 7. Said chapter 53 is hereby further amended by striking out section 54, as most recently amended by section 11 of chapter 337 of the acts of 1941, and inserting in place thereof the following:—

PROVISIONS APPLYING TO PRE-PRIMARY CONVENTIONS.

*Section 54.* Beginning in the year nineteen hundred and fifty-four, a political party shall, upon the call of its state committee, but not later than June fifteenth, in a year in which a biennial state election is held, hold a state convention for the purpose of adopting a platform, electing such number of members at large of the state committee as may be fixed by the convention, nominating presidential electors in those years in which a United States president is to be chosen and endorsing for nomination candidates for offices to be filled by all the voters of the commonwealth, to be voted for at the ensuing state primary, and for such other purposes consistent with law as the convention may determine. Such convention shall consist of delegates chosen by the ward and town committees. The number of delegates shall be one from each ward and town and one additional for every one thousand votes or major fraction thereof cast at the preceding biennial state election, in such ward or town, for the respective party's candidate for governor. Each such ward or town committee desiring representation at such convention shall, within fourteen days after a meeting duly called for the purpose of selecting a delegate or delegates, notify the respective city committee, in the case of a city, or the state committee, in the case of a town, but in no case shall such notice be given less than fourteen days prior to the date appointed for the opening of such convention. No vacancy shall be filled for any reason. Nothing herein contained shall affect or diminish the operation of the laws relating to state primaries contained in sections forty-one to fifty-three A, inclusive.

Pre-primary convention.

Delegates, number of, how chosen.

SECTION 8. Said chapter 53 is hereby further amended by inserting after section 54 the two following sections: — *Section 54C.* Every certificate of nomination of candidates endorsed for nomination by a state convention shall state that the nominee has been endorsed for nomination at such convention and shall include such facts as are required by section eight. Such certificates shall be signed, sworn to and filed as required by section five.

G. L. (Ter. Ed.), 53, new §§ 54C-54D, added.

Certificate of endorsement, contents, etc.

Each such candidate shall, within ten days from the day when the convention terminates, file with the state secretary his written acceptance of the nomination, otherwise his name shall not be printed on the ballot as a candidate for the office to which he was nominated, and he may add the eight-word statement authorized by section forty-five. Such candidate may not withdraw such acceptance.

Filing of written acceptance of endorsed candidate.

*Section 54D.* Delegates shall be seated in groups by senatorial districts as determined by the state committee. The convention shall be called to order by the chairman or acting chairman of the state committee, or in the absence of either, then by a person designated in such manner as the rules of the party shall prescribe. The person who calls the convention to order shall preside until the election of a permanent

Conduct of pre-primary conventions, regulated.

chairman. He shall appoint a temporary secretary to receive the roll of the convention and a monitor from each group who shall receive the credentials of delegates and present them to the temporary secretary.

The convention shall not proceed to the election of a permanent chairman or transact any business until the time fixed for the opening thereof, nor until a majority of the delegates named in the official roll shall be present. It shall then elect from among its delegates a permanent chairman and a permanent secretary, neither of whom shall be an officer of the state committee, and shall complete its organization. It shall make suitable rules for the conduct of its business, the order of which shall follow the purposes of the convention as stated in section fifty-four. The permanent secretary shall keep the records of the convention and transmit the same to the state secretary who shall retain them for a period of one year.

Permanent chairman and secretary, election of.

The permanent chairman and permanent secretary shall be chosen upon a call of the official roll. Committees of the convention shall be appointed by the convention, or by the permanent chairman, as the convention may order. When the vote of the convention is taken upon the election, nomination or endorsement for nomination of any candidate, the roll of the delegates shall be called and each delegate when his name is called shall arise in his place and announce his choice, except that when there is only one candidate to be voted for, the roll need not be called, and except also that the monitor of a group, unless a member of the group objects, may announce the vote of such group.

Penalty for corrupt practice.

A delegate to a pre-primary convention who corruptly requests or accepts a gift or gratuity under an agreement or with an understanding that his vote shall be given for any particular candidate or any person who offers such a gift or gratuity with such understanding or agreement shall be punished by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars or by imprisonment for not more than thirty days or both.

G. L. (Ter. Ed.), 53, § 70G, etc., amended.

SECTION 9. Section 70G of said chapter 53 is hereby amended by inserting after the first paragraph, as appearing in section 21 of chapter 473 of the acts of 1938, the two following paragraphs: —

Filling of certain vacancies, regulated.

In case of the death, withdrawal or ineligibility of a candidate for state committee, the vacancy may be filled as provided in section forty-nine.

In case of the death, withdrawal or ineligibility of a candidate for a ward or town committee, the vacancy may not be filled but members may be added as provided in section four of chapter fifty-two.

*Approved May 25, 1953.*