

SENATE No. 13

To accompany the petition of Arthur F. Blanchard for legislation to further regulate the nomination of candidates by certain political parties. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-One.

AN ACT FURTHER REGULATING THE NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES BY CERTAIN POLITICAL PARTIES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Section one of chapter fifty-three of the General
2 Laws, as most recently amended by chapter three
3 hundred and seventy-one of the acts of nineteen hun-
4 dred and thirty-nine, is hereby further amended by
5 inserting after the word "filled" in the fifteenth line
6 the following:—, but no party which is controlled,
7 directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, by any
8 foreign government or which advocates the overthrow
9 by force of the present form of government of the
10 United States may hold such a caucus or convention
11 or make a nomination for any office so to be filled,—
12 so as to read as follows:—*Section 1.* At any primary,
13 caucus or convention held under this chapter, each
14 party having the right to participate in or hold the

15 same may nominate as many candidates for each
16 office for which it has the right to make nominations
17 therein as there are persons to be elected to that office,
18 and no more. A party which has not polled at the
19 preceding state or municipal election the vote re-
20 quired to make it a political or municipal party as
21 defined in section one of chapter fifty, but which at
22 the three preceding biennial elections has polled in the
23 commonwealth, or in any district, county, city, town
24 or ward, respectively, a number of votes for governor
25 equal to one tenth of one per cent of the total number
26 of ballots cast, may hold a caucus or convention and
27 make a nomination for the office so to be filled, but
28 no party which is controlled, directly or indirectly, in
29 whole or in part, by any foreign government or which
30 advocates the overthrow by force of the present form
31 of government of the United States may hold such a
32 caucus or convention or make a nomination for any
33 office so to be filled. A party which makes one or more
34 nominations shall be entitled to have the name of
35 each of its candidates printed on the ballot to be used
36 at the ensuing election; but, unless the nomination is
37 made by direct plurality vote in a primary or in
38 several caucuses held in more than one ward or in
39 more than one precinct or group of precincts, a certifi-
40 cate of nomination must be filed as provided in section
41 five.

