

By Mr. Sprague of Shelborn, petition of George R. Sprague relative to campaign contributions by labor unions. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Six.

AN ACT FURTHER REGULATING CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS BY LABOR UNIONS.

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 1. The first paragraph of section 8 of chapter 55 of
2 the General Laws, as inserted by chapter 151 of the acts of 1975, is
3 hereby amended by striking out the first sentence and inserting in
4 place thereof the following sentence:—

5 No corporation carrying on the business of a bank, trust,
6 surety, indemnity, safe deposit, insurance, railroad, street
7 railway, telegraph, telephone, gas, electric light, heat, power,
8 canal, aqueduct, or water company, no company having the right
9 to take land by eminent domain or to exercise franchises in public
10 ways, granted by the commonwealth or by any county, city or
11 town, no trustee or trustees owning or holding the majority of the
12 stock of such a corporation, no business corporation incor-
13 porated under the laws of or doing business in the commonwealth
14 and no officer or agent acting in behalf of any corporation
15 mentioned in this section, and no labor union shall directly or
16 indirectly give, pay, expend or contribute, or promise to give,
17 pay, expend or contribute, any money or other valuable thing for
18 the purpose of aiding, promoting or preventing the nomination
19 or election of any person to public office, or aiding, promoting or
20 antagonizing the interests of any political party, or influencing or
21 affecting the vote on any question submitted to the voters, other
22 than one materially affecting any of the property, business or
23 assets of the corporation.

1 SECTION 2. Said chapter 55 is hereby further amended by

2 striking out section 22 and inserting in place thereof the following
3 section:—

4 *Section 22.* The treasurer of any corporation or labor union
5 mentioned in section eight which has given, paid, expended or
6 contributed, or promised to give, pay, expend or contribute, any
7 money or other valuable thing in order to influence or affect the
8 vote on any question submitted to the voters which materially
9 affects, any of the property, business or assets of the corporation,
10 shall within thirty days after the election at which the question
11 was submitted to the voters, file a statement with the director
12 setting forth the amount of every gift, payment, expenditure, or
13 contribution or promise to give, pay, expend or contribute,
14 together with the date, purpose, and name and last known
15 address of the person to whom it was made.

16 Violation of any provision of this section shall be punished by
17 imprisonment for not more than one year or by a fine of not more
18 than one thousand dollars.