

rupt practice as aforesaid, shall be fined not less than three hundred dollars, nor more than one thousand dollars, or be imprisoned for not more than one year, or both, and shall be ineligible to any public office, or public employment, for the period of four years from and after the time of the commission of such offense.

SEC. 172. It shall be unlawful and shall be deemed a corrupt practice for any corporation, incorporated under the laws of Maryland or of any State or Territory of the United States, or the District of Columbia, or of the United States, or of any other country, directly or indirectly, by itself, or through any officer, agent or employe, representative, or other person whatsoever, to give, contribute, furnish, lend or promise any money, property, transportation, means or aid to any political party, or any candidate for public office, or for nomination thereto, or to any political organization, or to any political committee, or to any treasurer or political agent, as herein defined, either directly or indirectly, to aid, promote or influence the success or defeat of any political party or principle, or of any measure or proposition submitted to a vote at a public election or primary election in this State, or to aid, promote or influence in any manner the election or defeat of a candidate therein, or to be used, applied or expended in any way whatever for political purposes. The president, the several directors and every other officer of any corporation which shall violate any of the provisions of this section, and the president or director, or other officer, or agent of any corporation, who shall personally violate any of the provisions of this section, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be punished by a fine of not more than five thousand dollars for each offense, and imprisonment for not more than three years in jail or penitentiary.

SEC. 173. At any time within thirty days after any election or primary election held under the laws of this State, any defeated candidate at such election, or any ten duly qualified voters at such election, may present to the Circuit Court of any county, or to the Superior Court of Baltimore city, a petition setting forth under oath that corrupt practices, contrary to the provisions of any section of this article, were committed at or preliminary to such election, within the county or city aforesaid, naming the successful candidate or candidates as defendant or defendants, and praying that the facts alleged may be inquired into. If the court, upon the affidavit or affidavits filed with such petition, or upon and after such preliminary hearing as it may see fit to institute, including such notice and representation to the party or parties named as the defendant or defendants in said