

CHAPTER 38

(House Bill 551)

AN ACT concerning

Election Code - Definitions

FOR the purpose of redefining a "party" or "political party" for purposes of the Election Code; and making style changes.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 33 - Election Code

Section 1-1(a) (15)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1971 Replacement Volume and 1975 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Section 1-1(a) (15) of Article 33 - Election Code, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume and 1975 Supplement) be and it is hereby repealed and reenacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

Article 33 - Election Code

1-1.

(a) (15) "Party" or "political party" as used in this article [shall mean] MEANS an organized group of the electorate that attempts to control government through the election of its candidates to office, and which either:

(i) [Shall have polled one per centum] POLLED 3 PERCENT or more of the entire vote cast in the State in the LAST general election held in the State [on either November 5, 1968 or November 3, 1970]; or

(ii) [Shall have filed] FILED a valid petition for the formation of a political party pursuant to § 4B-1 of this article. But, if any such party [shall lose] LOSES its status as a political party pursuant to the provisions of § 4C-1 of this article, then it shall cease to be a "party" or "political party" for purposes of this article.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1976.