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## **State To Appeal Campaign Finance Law Ruling**

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NEW HAVEN, Conn.

Connecticut Attorney General Richard Blumenthal says he will appeal a federal judge's ruling that the state's public campaign finance law is unconstitutional because it discriminates against minor party political candidates.

Judge Stefan Underhill ruled Thursday that a part of the law that provides a voluntary public financing scheme for candidates for statewide offices and state lawmakers puts an unconstitutional burden on minor party candidates' First Amendment right to political opportunity.

Blumenthal says he will seek a stay of the ruling so that the program can continue operating.

The Green and Libertarian parties and others sued the state, arguing the law makes it difficult for minor party candidates to meet the criteria for getting public funds for their campaigns.

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