February 9th, 2016

New York State Board of Elections
Commissioners: Andrew J. Spano and Gregory P. Peterson
Co-Chairs: Peter S. Kosinski and Douglas A. Kellner
40 North Pearl Street, Suite 5
Albany, New York 12207-2729

Subject: Specific Objection Letter to the Republican Party Nomination of Rafael Edward Cruz (a/k/a and herein: “Ted Cruz”) for President of the United States for the Presidential Primary to be held on April 19th, 2016.

To whom it may concern;

This letter is to announce and record my Specific Objections to the Republican Party Nomination of Rafael Edward Cruz (a/k/a and herein: “Ted Cruz”) for President of the United States for the Presidential Primary to be held on April 19th, 2016 and/or the General Election to be held November 8th, 2016.

The core of the substance of the objection is as follows: Ted Cruz is not a “natural born citizen” and is thus ineligible to run for the Office of President of the United States --- a requirement enumerated in Section 1 of Article Two of the United States Constitution.

Attachments:

1.) Ted Cruz birth certificate
2.) Ted Cruz's mother's birth certificate
3.) Documentation of Ted Cruz's parents as Canadian ELECTORS (presumed Citizens)
4.) Documentation of Ted Cruz's renouncing Canadian Citizenship
5.) Timeline
6.) Additional Analysis & Articles

Very truly yours,

Gregory-John Fischer
New York State Registered Voter in Suffolk County
Attachment 1: Ted Cruz Birth Certificate

Certificate of Birth

This is to certify that the particulars of the undernoted birth which is on record in this Department are as follows:

Name: RAFAEL EDWARD CRUZ  Sex: Male

Date of Birth: 22nd December 1970  Place of Birth: Calgary, Alberta

Name of Father: Rafael Bienvenido Cruz  His Birthplace: Matanzas, Cuba

Name of Mother: Eleanor Elizabeth Wilson  Her Birthplace: Wilmington, Delaware, U.S.A.

Occupation of Father: Geophysical Consultant

Registered at: Calgary  on 31st December 1970  Record No.: 70-08-032264

Given under my hand and seal of the Director at Edmonton, this

Twenty-first day of January 1971

Director

332334
Attachment 2: Ted Cruz’s Mother’s Birth Certificate
URBAN POLLING DIVISION No. 121
NOTICES TO ELECTORS

Electors

The lists of the preliminary lists of electors, as printed hereunder, will be held at Parkhill Church of Christ, 110 Mission St. E., between 10 and 11 a.m. and between 7 and 8 p.m. (Mountain Standard Time) of Wednesday, Thursday and Friday the 19th, 20th and 21st days of June, 1974, and all persons who are residents of the electoral division, or who were residents thereof on November 24, 1973, and who are over the age of 21 years of age, and who are not fail to vote at the advance polling station or who do not appear on this list of electors. By the relevant

You may vote at the advance polling station:
(1) if your name appears on the list of electors prepared for your polling division;
(2) if you have reason to believe that you will not be able to vote in the polling division on the date of the election;
(3) if, because of advanced age, infancy or some other reason, you find it convenient to vote at an advance polling station;
(4) if you are a member of a religious body or your religious beliefs or personal convictions prevent you from voting at the polling station to which you have been assigned;
(5) if you have been registered on the electoral register for the electoral division for which you have been assigned.

Such a list of electors must be kept in a separate location from the list of electors prepared for the advance polling station.

If you are a member of a religious body or your religious beliefs or personal convictions prevent you from voting at the polling station to which you have been assigned, you may vote at the advance polling station located at or near Parkhill Church of Christ, between 6 a.m. and 8 p.m. (Mountain Standard Time) of Saturday, the 29th day of June, 1974, or at any other time on or before election day, 1974.

NOTE — This list of electors should be preserved until after polling day at the polling place.

CANADA ELECTIONS ACT

Urban Preliminary List of Electors

Containing the names of all persons who are eligible to vote at the advance polling station located at or near Parkhill Church of Christ, between 6 a.m. and 8 p.m., and who have been registered on the electoral register for the electoral division for which they have been assigned.

The following names have been enumerated during a recent house-to-house visitation in the area mentioned polling district by a panel of enumerator.

7TH STREET SOUTH WEST

4113 Smith, Clark, engineer
4113 Smith, Mrs. Jane, housewife
4116 Thompson, John, engineer
4116 Thompson, John, housewife

8TH STREET SOUTH WEST

4000 Van Nest, F., garageman
4112 Anderson, Mrs. Betty
4112 Anderson, Nellie, mother
4112 Anderson, Nellie, daughter
4116 Thompson, John, housewife

NOTE — This list of electors should be preserved until after polling day at the polling place.
Attachment 4: Documentation of Ted Cruz’s renouncing Canadian Citizenship

Certificate of Renunciation of Canadian Citizenship

Name - Nom

RAFAEL EDWARD CRUZ

Place of birth - Lieu de naissance

ALBERTA, CANADA

This is to certify that the person named above has formally renounced Canadian citizenship and pursuant to the Citizenship Act will cease to be a citizen on

Birth date - Date de naissance

22 / 12 / 1970

Ce certificat atteste que la personne nommée ci-dessus a formellement répuité la citoyenneté canadienne et, selon la Loi sur la citoyenneté, cessera d’être citoyen le

14 / 05 / 2014

Minister - Ministre

No. - N° 6278

Government of Canada

Canada
Ted Cruz Citizenship Timeline --- on information and belief

What is presented in this timeline is a matter of public record. This timeline is based upon public documents, law, publicly reported events, public statements made by Ted Cruz, persons of the campaign to elect Ted Cruz, or US and Canadian officials.

Introduction and summary: The facts and law presented in this filing generally support the “naturalized” citizenship (and refute the “natural born” citizenship) of Ted Cruz. However, pursuant to what is revealed in the four corners of this filing, it is possible that even the “naturalized” citizenship of Ted Cruz was fraudulently obtained. State of Delaware Vital Records says, no record of Eleanor Elizabeth Darragh Wilson birth exist. Ted Cruz's mother does not have a US birth certificate under that name. Ted Cruz’s mother’s birth name seems to be Eleanor Darragh (Attachment 2). Ted Cruz’s own birth certificate (Attachment 1) listed his mother as “Eleanor Elizabeth Wilson.” “Elizabeth” was her mother’s first name, and “Wilson” is alleged to be a surname from a “previous” marriage. Ted Cruz was affirmatively born on Canadian soil by a purportedly US citizen mother --- but that may not be true as revealed in this filing. No status as “natural born citizen” was sought for Ted Cruz via the US Consulate in Canada. No expedited “naturalization” was sought for Ted Cruz subsequent to his residency in the US via the US Immigration and Naturalization Service (herein “INS”, see notes/analysis on INS provided below, since INS was in 2003 incorporated into other US Departments and Agencies).

Ted Cruz may be a naturalized citizen (but he is certainly not not a natural born citizen) having been born in the nation of Canada --- but he fails to meet the statutory requirements to be deemed a “natural born citizen”. Additionally, Ted Cruz had willfully maintained his citizenship for Canada (being a natural born citizen of Canada) into 2014 (Attachment 3). Ted Cruz was not of Canadian birth “by accident” of a US Citizen parent (with 10 years of affirmed and consecutive US residency) or of a parent in US Military Service or of a parent in US Foreign Service --- yet, Ted Cruz was intentionally raised in Canada for the early years of his life. However, the willful 2014 Canadian citizenship of Ted Cruz highlights his conflicted dual-citizenship (and possibly mixed loyalties) demonstrating an important (but prohibited) element (a prohibition of non-US citizenship) underlying the legislative intent of the US Constitution for prohibiting someone other than a natural born citizen from seeking to assume, or even run for, the Office of the President of the United States.

1957 - After working as a teen to help Fidel Castro gain power in Cuba, and being imprisoned for his actions by the Batista regime, Cuban Rafael Cruz applies for admittance to the University of Texas as a foreign student; he enters the US on a four year student visa to attend four years of college. He is a Cuban citizen attending a US college on a foreign student visa obtained through the US Consulate in Havana. It is of note that Fidel Castro had a history of anti-American activities.
1961-1962 - After graduating college at the University of Texas, and upon the expiration of his foreign student visa, Cruz Sr. applied for and received "political asylum" and was issued a "green card." A green card is a permit to reside and work in the United States, without becoming a "citizen" of the United States, in this case, under political asylum from Castro's Cuba. His citizenship status was that of a Cuban national living and working in the United States, under a green card work permit. According to US laws, the "green card" holder must maintain permanent resident status, and can be removed from the United States if certain conditions of this status are not met.

1964-1966 - Cruz Sr. takes a few odd jobs, purports to “marry” “Eleanor Elizabeth Darragh Wilson” (herein, the woman to become, “Ted Cruz's mother), and moves to Canada to work in the oil fields. The couple resides in Canada for the next eight years. “I worked in Canada for eight years,” Rafael Cruz says. “And while I was in Canada, I became a Canadian citizen.” – (From and interview with NPR)”.

Peter Spiro, a legal expert on US citizenship at Temple University. Spiro says Rafael Cruz's multi-country odyssey did not follow traditional models for immigration. SPIRO - “Ted Cruz himself seems to be an advocate of those traditional immigration models. Maybe he should be a little more tolerant of the nontraditional versions, given his own father's history.”

1970 - Ted Cruz is born in Canada (Attachment 1) to Rafael Cruz and “Eleanor Elizabeth Darragh Wilson”. His parents had lived in Canada for at least four years at the time of his birth. Rafael Cruz had applied for and received Canadian citizenship under Canadian Immigration and Naturalization Laws, as stated by Rafael Cruz. As a result, US statutes would have voided the prior "green card" status which requires among other things, permanent residency within the United States and obviously, not becoming a citizen of another country during the time frame of the US green card. (There are conflicting reports as to Canadian Citizenship applications or other Canadian applications made by Ted Cruz's mother.) However, Ted Cruz's mother DID NOT have 10 or more years in the US just subsequent to the birth of Ted Cruz. Nor was Ted Cruz's mother a resident of the US within a year of the birth of Ted Cruz.

At the time of Ted Cruz’s birth, he was subject to the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952. Section 301(a)(7) stated that a person born outside the United States who has only one citizen parent was a citizen only if the parent “was physically present in the United States . . . for a period or periods totaling not less than 10 years [before the birth], at least five of which were after attaining the age of fourteen years.” To conclude that Mr. Cruz is eligible to be president, it must be established that his mother had fulfilled ALL the U.S. residency requirements. This is why the relevant Harvard Law Review article stated that “subject to certain residency requirements on the parents, someone born to a U.S. citizen generally becomes a citizen without regard to where the birth takes place.”

Thus Ted Cruz’s citizenship could only come subsequently and by way of naturalization, pursuant to United States v. Wong Kim Ark [169 U.S. 649] --- the most extensive discussion of the 14th Amendment’s citizenship clause, the Supreme Court affirmed her point that there are two paths to citizenship — birth and naturalization — and delineates that birthright citizenship requires birth in territory under U.S. jurisdiction. This would seem to make Mr. Cruz ineligible. As of February, 8th 2016, the US Government, Department of Homeland Security, has not released (nor denied the existence of) the naturalization documents on Ted Cruz --- of course it is possible that Ted Cruz is NEITHER a naturalized nor "natural born" citizen.
1974 – Ted Cruz and his mother move to the United States when Ted is approximately four years old. This is subsequent to the Rafael Cruz leaving the Canadian home --- leaving Ted Cruz and his mother behind. However, Rafael Cruz eventually reunites with his wife and child (Ted Cruz) in Texas. Rafael Cruz has publicly stated that he remained a citizen of Canada until he renounced his Canadian citizenship when he applied for and became a US Naturalized citizen in 2005. Ted Cruz maintained a Canadian citizenship --- being born a citizen of Canada in 1970. Up until this time there are no documents filed to claim Ted Cruz is a “natural born” citizen.

While Ted Cruz may have a birthright to be a “naturalized” US citizen, his right to claim a right to be a “natural born” US Citizen has long past. Prior to this move, Ted Cruz, via his parents, do not show commitment to have Ted Cruz be raised as a US Citizen --- in fact, the obvious logistics to this point shows the parental intent to have Ted Cruz recorded and raised as a Canadian citizen. As well, important statutes of limitation have passed.

To underscore that Ted Cruz's parents raised Ted Cruz as a Canadian citizen while in Canada, his parents were Canadian “electors” participating by electing and nominating representatives that would represent Canada --- by this, Ted Cruz's parents participated in demonstrated loyalties to the function and sovereignty of the Canadian Government (Attachment 3, Ref.#s: 920 & 183/184 [Page 2]). It may be implied that as a US Citizen actively supporting the sovereignty of a foreign government, Ted Cruz's mother was actively participating in acts of Treason or Seditious Conspiracy against the interests of the US Government. All this prior to the purported naturalization of Ted Cruz.

2005 - Rafael Cruz applies for legal US citizenship --- allegedly renouncing his Canadian citizenship. There is no record of Ted Cruz renouncing his Canadian citizenship or applying for US citizenship exists as of 2005.

2013 - Freshman Senator Ted Cruz is a rising star in the Tea Party movement, and calls for him to run for the White House begin. In July, Ted Cruz is questioned by the press about his interest in running for President, and the issue of his Canadian born citizenship is brought up Sen. Ted Cruz rejected questions Sunday over his eligibility to be president, saying that although he was born in Canada “the facts are clear” that he is a US citizen --- in reality, none of purported “facts” are clear. “My mother was born in Wilmington, Delaware. She is a US citizen, so I'm a US citizen by birth,” Cruz told ABC (“Ted Cruz Dismisses Talk of 2016 Presidential Bid While in Iowa”, July 2013), “I'm not going to engage in a legal debate.”

It seems, Ted Cruz omits the part of his father's story, in particular, the part about his parents applying for and receiving Canadian citizenship prior to Ted's birth in Calgary. He also attempts to gloss past the actual definition of natural born citizen by implying it is a mere legal debate for others to figure out.

August 2013 - As Ted's political stock rises in the Tea Party, so do press questions about his eligibility for office. Ted Cruz decides to quiet the questions by releasing his birth certificate, which now becomes absolute proof of Ted's Canadian citizenship at birth, 1970, Calgary, Canada. The release of the Canadian birth records only serve to further fuel the controversy and settles nothing about his purported American citizenship.
Ted Cruz seeks Legal Counsel, as the media is now pressing members of Canadian Immigration and Naturalization to clear the matter up, when instead, Canadian officials confirm the Ted Cruz was in fact born a legal citizen of Canada, the son of two parents who had also applied for and received Canadian citizenship prior to Ted's birth.

“He's a Canadian,” said Toronto lawyer Stephen Green, past chairman of the Canadian Bar Association's Citizenship and Immigration Section. “Generally speaking, under the Citizenship Act of 1947, those born in Canada were automatically citizens at birth unless their parent was a foreign diplomat,” said ministry spokeswoman Julie Lafortune.

Legal counsel advises Ted to "renounce his Canadian citizenship" in order to make himself eligible to run for the presidency. Of course, renouncing one's original citizenship only further proves one's original citizenship. It does not prove a purported American citizenship or that an American “citizenship” (or some sort) was not fraudulently applied for.

May 2014 - Ted Cruz legal counsel files to renounce Ted's Canadian citizenship in an effort to make him eligible to run for high office under the natural born Citizen clause Article II in the US Constitution.

AUSTIN, Texas - Canada-born US Sen. Ted Cruz has given up his citizenship from his birth country, making good on a promise from last summer. spokeswoman Catherine Frazier said “the Tea Party favorite formally gave up his citizenship May 14th. He received official confirmation of the action at his Houston home Tuesday.” News that he had renounced his citizenship was first reported by the Dallas Morning News. The newspaper also broke that Ted Cruz had dual Canadian and US citizenship when he released his birth certificate in August.

Further said Ted Cruz “he is pleased to have the process finalized” and that it “makes sense he should be only an American citizen.”- of course, the Constitution does not require that one be only an American citizen, but rather a “natural born citizen”. The endless careful choice of words, and partial release of documents, is nearly perfect in how it artfully the truth is obscured.

As of February 4, 2015 - No evidence of any US Citizenship (naturalization or governmental process of documenting citizenship) has been released to confirm anything at all about the true citizenship status of Ted Cruz. Further, the ex-patriot tax returns of Ted Cruz's mother have not been released for her years in Canada:. Combined with her Canadian voting status (Attachment 3), evidence points to Ted Cruz's mother constructively abandoning her American citizenship.

Because Ted Cruz has been confirmed a legal citizen of Canada up until renouncing his Canadian citizenship in May of 2014, and because he has been confirmed a citizen of Canada at birth, and because his father is on public record stating that he and his purported “wife” became citizens of Canada during their eight years living in Canada and because Rafael Cruz remained a citizen of Canada until he renounced and applied for legal US citizenship in 2005. There is simply NO WAY that Ted Cruz was, is or ever can be a Natural Born Citizen of the United States eligible for the offices of President or Vice President.
One who inherits their Citizenship at birth via nature ALONE is clearly a natural born Citizen of the United States. However, there are statutory exceptions that would allow Ted Cruz to be deemed a “natural born citizen”. Those exceptions (like birth on a military base, or some other narrow exceptions) for foreign birth by a US Citizen parent, require papers to be filed with the US Government --- where are those papers? According to all available documentation and verifiable information on Ted Cruz and his family, Ted Cruz was a native born citizen of Canada and not a natural born Citizen of the United States.

An important open question is: “how did did Ted Cruz ever get a US Passport?” He could not have presented a US birth certificate to the US State Department. What was presented as his “Evidence of ...U.S. Citizenship”? Did he present US naturalization papers? If so where are those naturalization (or other) papers and what do they show?

Now, Ted Cruz would surely authorize the release of the thus far withheld Homeland Security Department (naturalization) and State Department (passport) documents if those documents supported his eligibility. However, it seem intuitively obvious that his campaign is not benefiting from the mystery created by an incomplete document trail. The only possible inference that a reasonable person can draw is Ted Cruz is actually aware that he is not a “natural born citizen”. Lastly, if the absent documents were later revealed, at best Ted Cruz would be viewed negatively for that extended time he concealed those documents from the American People --- Ted Cruz is clearly in the unenviable current position of choosing between being harmed by the current concealment or being completely damned by the eventual truth.

At this moment, Ted Cruz is a de facto “Manchurian candidate” in that his willful presence in a Presidential race, combined with a muddied citizenship status, creates controversy that he alone is in the best position to solve and bring peace to the now extended, nearly year-round, Presidential election process. Ted Cruz can (1.) willingly release to the public domain all Department of Homeland Security records related to himself, and/or (2.) he can commence a declaratory action --- to have the courts declare that he is in fact a “natural born citizen” (or otherwise qualified to run for the Office of President of the United States). Interestingly, since “Election Law” is given first priority by the courts (such that the courts MUST, set aside all other matters to give priority to election law cases), this controversy could be resolved promptly. However, it is Cruz that has inserted DELAY into a fundamental legal process and now willfully confuses the American voting public.

If the Ted Cruz is a citizen by any means at all, as of this date (in February 2016), considering the birthdate of Ted Cruz and the date Ted Cruz renounces his Canadian citizenship, Ted Cruz had actually been a Canadian citizen (natural born) for more years than he has been a US Citizen (naturalized).
Further, and most disconcerting, for lack of DHS documents, it appears that Ted Cruz' mother was not legally divorced from her prior husband at the time of Ted Cruz' birth. Her married name from her first marriage is on the birth certificate, not the name of “Cruz”. Also, it appears that Ted Cruz's father was not legally divorced from his first wife. In other words, they were just living together, and never married. If so, then, it seems, Ted Cruz was born of a woman out of wedlock. While he obtained natural born Canadian citizenship nonetheless, the rules for conferring US Naturalization citizenship were different if the mother is out of wedlock on the date Ted Cruz was born. Under those rules, the mother has to have been living continuously in the US (or otherwise on US soil) during the year prior to the birth in order to transfer citizenship to the offspring. She had, instead, been living for 3 (or more) years in Canada prior to the birth. Accordingly, Cruz never legally obtained US citizenship, and likely could be adjudicated to be an “undocumented worker” (or “illegal alien”) living in the US. Thus far, neither divorce papers, nor a marriage certificate, has been found or provided and that is another “game changer”.

In summary for the purpose of this timeline, under the most liberal of interpretations, citizenship by statute is not the same as natural born citizenship. To legally alter anything in the Constitution, there must be an amendment to the Constitution and that amendment must be very specific in wording, as to what is being changed, altered or removed. The amendment itself must also be in perpetuation of the original context and intent of the Constitution, and cannot violate the original text or intent (without crystal clear “modernized” legislative intent and full debate), or the measure itself may become “unconstitutional.” As a result, the term “Natural Born Citizen” now means exactly the same thing it meant when the Founders made it a condition for access to the Oval Office in September of 1787. Ted Cruz does not meet any of the narrow exceptions of foreign birth that allow for being affirmed a “natural born citizen”. Ted Cruz was not born on US soil (albeit implied “foreign”) and NONE of the statutory “broadening” legislation otherwise enabling required procedural steps were complied with. Further, the purported “citizenship” of Ted Cruz may have been applied for “fraudulently” a thus may be voidable. The Ted Cruz bald assertions of candidacy legitimacy are couched in politics and double-speak --- however, his continuing and active concealment of “naturalization” (DHS) documents speaks louder than anything he is saying. Therefore, Ted Cruz must be denied ballot access for the Office of President of the United States.
Ted Cruz is not eligible to be president
By Mary Brigid McManamon, January 12, 2016

Mary Brigid McManamon is a constitutional law professor at Widener University’s Delaware Law School.

Donald Trump is actually right about something: Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Tex.) is not a natural-born citizen and therefore is not eligible to be president or vice president of the United States.

The Constitution provides that “No person except a natural born Citizen . . . shall be eligible to the Office of President.” The concept of “natural born” comes from common law, and it is that law the Supreme Court has said we must turn to for the concept’s definition. On this subject, common law is clear and unambiguous. The 18th-century English jurist William Blackstone, the preeminent authority on it, declared natural-born citizens are “such as are born within the dominions of the crown of England,” while aliens are “such as are born out of it.” The key to this division is the assumption of allegiance to one’s country of birth. The Americans who drafted the Constitution adopted this principle for the United States. James Madison, known as the “father of the Constitution,” stated, “It is an established maxim that birth is a criterion of allegiance. . . . [And] place is the most certain criterion; it is what applies in the United States.”

Cruz is, of course, a U.S. citizen. As he was born in Canada, he is not natural-born. His mother, however, is an American, and Congress has provided by statute for the naturalization of children born abroad to citizens. Because of the senator’s parentage, he did not have to follow the lengthy naturalization process that aliens without American parents must undergo. Instead, Cruz was naturalized at birth. This provision has not always been available. For example, there were several decades in the 19th century when children of Americans born abroad were not given automatic naturalization.

Article I of the Constitution grants Congress the power to naturalize an alien — that is, Congress may remove an alien’s legal disabilities, such as not being allowed to vote. But Article II of the Constitution expressly adopts the legal status of the natural-born citizen and requires that a president possess that status. However we feel about allowing naturalized immigrants to reach for the stars, the Constitution must be amended before one of them can attain the office of president. Congress simply does not have the power to convert someone born outside the United States into a natural-born citizen.

Let me be clear: I am not a so-called birther. I am a legal historian. President Obama is without question eligible for the office he serves. The distinction between the president and Cruz is simple: The president was born within the United States, and the senator was born outside of it. That is a distinction with a difference.
In this election cycle, numerous pundits have declared that Cruz is eligible to be president. They rely on a supposed consensus among legal experts. This notion appears to emanate largely from a recent comment in the Harvard Law Review Forum by former solicitors general Neal Katyal and Paul Clement. In trying to put the question of who is a natural-born citizen to rest, however, the authors misunderstand, misapply and ignore the relevant law.

First, although Katyal and Clement correctly declare that the Supreme Court has recognized that common law is useful to explain constitutional terms, they ignore that law. Instead, they rely on three radical 18th-century British statutes. While it is understandable for a layperson to make such a mistake, it is unforgivable for two lawyers of such experience to equate the common law with statutory law. The common law was unequivocal: Natural-born subjects had to be born in English territory. The then-new statutes were a revolutionary departure from that law.

Second, the authors appropriately ask the question whether the Constitution includes the common-law definition or the statutory approach. But they fail to examine any U.S. sources for the answer. Instead, Katyal and Clement refer to the brand-new British statutes as part of a “longstanding tradition” and conclude that the framers followed that law because they “would have been intimately familiar with these statutes.” But when one reviews all the relevant American writings of the early period, including congressional debates, well-respected treatises and Supreme Court precedent, it becomes clear that the common-law definition was accepted in the United States, not the newfangled British statutory approach.

Third, Katyal and Clement put much weight on the first U.S. naturalization statute, enacted in 1790. Because it contains the phrase “natural born,” they infer that such citizens must include children born abroad to American parents. The first Congress, however, had no such intent. The debates on the matter reveal that the congressmen were aware that such children were not citizens and had to be naturalized; hence, Congress enacted a statute to provide for them. Moreover, that statute did not say the children were natural born, only that they should “be considered as” such. Finally, as soon as Madison, then a member of Congress, was assigned to redraft the statute in 1795, he deleted the phrase “natural born,” and it has never reappeared in a naturalization statute.

When discussing the meaning of a constitutional term, it is important to go beyond secondary sources and look to the law itself. And on this issue, the law is clear: The framers of the Constitution required the president of the United States to be born in the United States.
Ted Cruz Isn't a 'Natural Born' Citizen

According to the Constitution, because Sen. Ted Cruz was not born in the United States, he is not eligible to run for president.


By Robert Clinton, U.S. News and World Report, Jan. 27, 2016, at 7:00 a.m.

Cruz owes his American citizenship to legislation, not virtue of birth.

As expected, the question of whether Sen. Ted Cruz is eligible to hold the office of the president based on his Canadian birth is now front-and-center thanks to Cruz's GOP presidential nominee rival Donald Trump. Constitutional scholars are dusting off their crystal balls as they are asked to discern what the Founding Fathers really meant by "natural born" citizen. Let me join the chorus of opinions by saying that based on the original framework of the Constitution and the 14th Amendment, Sen. Ted Cruz does not appear to be constitutionally eligible to hold the office of the president.

Article II, Section 1, Clause 5 of the Constitution states: "No Person except a natural born Citizen ... shall be eligible to the Office of President." The original structure of the Constitution does suggest that "natural born" was meant to contain a geographic component of birth in the United States. The "Inhabitant" requirements for senators and representatives in Article I of the Constitution clearly were intended to be geographic. Since the qualifications stated for president contain no other obvious parallel geographic reference, it would seem the framers meant the "natural born" citizenship requirement for president to refer to those born geographically in the United States.

The framers, however, contemplated later migration into the United States and authorized Congress in Article I, Section 8, Clause 4 to provide means of acquiring citizenship by naturalization for those who were not natural born citizens. Thus, as originally drafted, the Constitution recognized only two means of acquiring national citizenship – "natural born" citizens (birthright citizenship), and naturalization.

Originally, however, neither the Constitution nor anything else clearly defined birthright citizenship. Until after the Civil War, it was widely assumed that one was a citizen of the United States if one was a citizen of any state, leaving state law to define national, as well as state, citizenship. This omission in the Constitution formed a basis for Supreme Court Justice Taney's decision in the infamous Dred Scott decision, holding that a slave taken to a free state did not and could not become a citizen of that state or of the United States. To correct this omission and to overturn Dred Scott, after the Civil War the country adopted the 14th Amendment, a constitutional provision that has hardly been discussed in the recent debate of presidential citizenship qualifications. The first sentence of the 14th Amendment reads:

All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside.
This language made both national and state citizenship a matter of federal, rather than state, law. More importantly, the 14th Amendment explicitly states precisely what was only implied in the original document — there are only two classes of citizenship, birthright citizens and naturalized citizens. Those "born ... in the United States" are constitutionally citizens of the United States, while those who were born elsewhere derive their citizenship from federal law, rather than the Constitution. The authority to pass such laws, including the laws that made Ted Cruz, George Romney or John McCain automatically citizens of the United States, derives from the naturalization power set forth in Article I, Section 8, Clause 4 of the Constitution.

The problem is that in modern parlance, naturalization has come to be understood not as the legislatively conferred citizenship but as a process of acquiring citizenship. Cruz, McCain and George Romney did not have to go through any process to acquire their citizenship; Congress conferred that citizenship automatically by statute. These are not the only examples, however, of automatic naturalization by statute without any process or request. For example, United States citizenship was statutory conferred on all Native Americans living within the United States by the Indian Citizenship Act of 1924, even though some tribes actually objected, then as now.

Thus, naturalization as a term seems to have two very different meanings: (1) legislatively conferred citizenship either automatically or pursuant to some process, and (2) the more recent understanding, the process for acquiring citizenship where Congress has prescribed such a process. The Constitution appears to adopt the former reading on the issue of presidential eligibility, however much modern language usage employs the latter. In his recent comments on whether he is a "natural born" citizen, Sen. Ted Cruz appears to confuse or obfuscate these two.

The more natural reading of the language and original understanding of the "natural born" citizenship requirement therefore would seem to be that one needed to be born, as the 14th Amendment put it, "in the United States," rather than that one had an American parent. The Constitution, as opposed to any statute, prescribes birthright citizenship, not lineage, as the constitutional definition of acquiring citizenship at birth. Any statute expanding that definition to take into account the massively increased mobility of American citizens since the rural agrarian roots of the Constitution in 1787 would provide a means of automatic naturalization. In short, the framers of both the original Constitution and the 14th Amendment seem to have distinguished between constitutionally and legislatively conferred citizenship. Those who acquire their citizenship by virtue of birth in the United States are, according to the 14th Amendment, constitutionally conferred citizens, which also seems to be the original understanding of "natural born" citizens. All others must secure their citizenship through legislative enactment, i.e. naturalization, whether with or without any required process or prerequisites.

The irony, of course, which cannot be lost on Sen. Ted Cruz, is that under the Constitution anyone born in the United States to a set of undocumented immigrants has a much clearer and more certain legal entitlement to run for president of the United States than he does. No wonder Cruz has railed against birthright citizenship, even though it is expressly contained in the first sentence of the 14th Amendment, a document he swore an oath of office to uphold.

--- Robert N. Clinton is the foundation professor of law at the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University. He teaches constitutional law, federal Indian law, cyberspace law and copyrights.
Other papers and articles

Originalism and the Natural Born Citizen Clause,
Lawrence B. Solum, Georgetown University Law Center, April 18, 2010
Illinois Public Law Research Paper No. 08-17

Abstract:
The enigmatic phrase "natural born citizen" poses a series of problems for contemporary originalism. New Originalists, like Justice Scalia, focus on the public meaning of the constitutional text, but the notion of a "natural born citizen" was likely a term of art, derived from the idea of a "natural born subject" in English law - a category that most likely did not extend to persons, like John McCain, who were born outside sovereign territory. But the constitution speaks of "citizens" and not "subjects," introducing uncertainties and ambiguities that might (or might not) make McCain eligible for the presidency.

What was the original public meaning of the enigmatic phrase that establishes the eligibility for the office of President of the United States? There is general agreement on the core of settled meaning: some cases of inclusion and exclusion seem indisputable. As a matter of inclusion, anyone born on American soil with an American parent is clearly a "natural born citizen." As a matter of exclusion, anyone whose citizenship is acquired after birth as a result of "naturalization" is clearly not a "natural born citizen." But these clear cases of inclusion and exclusion do not exhaust the possibilities. John McCain's citizenship was conferred by statute - perhaps before, but perhaps after his birth. That leaves John McCain in a twilight zone - neither clearly naturalized nor natural born [added: pursuant to "originalism"].
Was there fraud *ab initio* in the “naturalization of Ted Cruz?*

The obfuscation of the naturalization papers of Ted Cruz (being held by the Department of Homeland Security[DHS] US Citizenship and mostly within U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services [USCIS] for the former United States Immigration and Naturalization Service [see notes/analysis on “INS” provided below]) presents a fatal problem to the Ted Cruz claim that he is qualified to seek the Office of President of the United States. Convincing evidence for the demand of complete allegiance required for citizenship can be found in the "Naturalization Oath of Allegiance to the United States of America," an oath required to become an American citizen of the United States. The "Oath of Allegiance," 8 C.F.R. Part 337 reads:

I hereby declare, on oath, that **I absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty of whom or which I have heretofore been a subject or citizen;** that I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I will bear arms on behalf of the United States when required by the law; that I will perform noncombatant service in the Armed Forces of the United States when required by the law; that I will perform work of national importance under civilian direction when required by the law; and that I take this obligation freely without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; so help me God.

Of course, this very oath leaves no room for dual-citizenship --- and Ted Cruz seems to have broken this oath continuously for thirty to forty years --- and he was obviously suborned by his parents.

Further, to highlight the intent of the law, Rep. John Bingham of Ohio, considered the father of the Fourteenth Amendment, confirms the understanding and construction the framers used in regards to birthright and jurisdiction while speaking on civil rights of citizens in the House on March 9, 1866:

[I] find no fault with the introductory clause [S 61 Bill], which is simply declaratory of what is written in the Constitution, that every human being born within the jurisdiction of the United States of parents not owing allegiance to any foreign sovereignty is, in the language of your Constitution itself, a natural born citizen ...Congressional Globe, 39th Congress (1866) pg 1291

Thus, by way of original legislative debate, even birth on American soil of US citizen parents may have been insufficient, and undeniable allegiance may have been a necessary component to even “natural born” citizenship.
From the US State Department:  
https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/abroad/events-and-records/birth.html

Birth of U.S. Citizens Abroad

A child born abroad to a U.S. citizen parent or parents may acquire U.S. citizenship at birth if certain statutory requirements are met. The child’s parents should contact the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate to apply for a Consular Report of Birth Abroad of a Citizen of the United States of America (CRBA) to document that the child is a U.S. citizen. If the U.S. embassy or consulate determines that the child acquired U.S. citizenship at birth, a consular officer will approve the CRBA application and the Department of State will issue a CRBA, also called a Form FS-240, in the child’s name.

According to U.S. law, a CRBA is proof of U.S. citizenship and may be used to obtain a U.S. passport and register for school, among other purposes.  

The child’s parents may choose to apply for a U.S. passport for the child at the same time that they apply for a CRBA. Parents may also choose to apply only for a U.S. passport for the child. Like a CRBA, a full validity, unexpired U.S. passport is proof of U.S. citizenship.  

Parents of a child born abroad to a U.S. citizen or citizens should apply for a CRBA and/or a U.S. passport for the child as soon as possible. Failure to promptly document a child who meets the statutory requirements for acquiring U.S. citizenship at birth may cause problems for the parents and the child when attempting to establish the child’s U.S. citizenship and eligibility for the rights and benefits of U.S. citizenship, including entry into the United States. By law, U.S. citizens, including dual nationals, must use a U.S. passport to enter and leave the United States.

Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA, or Form FS-240)

If you are a U.S. citizen and have a child overseas, you should report his or her birth as soon as possible so that a Consular Report of Birth Abroad can be issued as an official record of the child's claim to U.S. citizenship. Report the birth of your child abroad at the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate. Check the American Citizens Services portion of the web-page for the nearest Embassy or Consulate in the country where your child was born for further instructions about how to apply for a CRBA. Please note:

A Consular Report of Birth Abroad of a U.S. citizen is only issued to a child who acquired U.S. citizenship at birth and who is generally under the age of 18 at the time of the application. The U.S. embassy or consulate will provide one original copy of an eligible child’s Consular Report of Birth Abroad of a U.S. Citizen.

A more secure Consular Report of Birth Abroad of a U.S. Citizen was introduced in January 2011. This new CRBA has been updated with a variety of state of the art security features, and is printed centrally in the United States. U.S. embassies and consulates no longer print CRBAs locally, but you still must apply there. The central production was initiated to ensure uniform quality and reduce vulnerability to fraud. The previous version of the CRBA continues to be valid proof of U.S. Citizenship.
You may replace, amend or request multiple copies of a Consular Report of Birth Abroad of a U.S. Citizen at any time.

Persons who acquired U.S. citizenship or U.S. nationality at birth in one of the following current or former territories or outlying possessions of the United States during relevant time periods are not eligible for a Consular Report of Birth Abroad of a U.S. Citizen because such persons are not considered to have been born abroad. Individuals born in these locations during the relevant times may establish acquisition of U.S. citizenship or non-citizen nationality, based upon the applicable agreement or statute, by producing their birth certificate issued from the local Vital Records Office along with any other evidence required to establish acquisition:

- Puerto Rico
- U.S. Virgin Islands
- American Samoa
- Guam
- Swains Island
- The Panama Canal Zone before October 1, 1979
- The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands after January 8, 1978 (8PM EST)
- The Philippines before July 4, 1946

Other Citizenship Documents Issued to U.S. Citizens Born Abroad

Certification of Report of Birth (DS-1350)
As of December 31, 2010, the Department of State no longer issues Certifications of Reports of Births (DS-1350). All previously issued DS-1350s are still valid for proof of identity, citizenship and other legal purposes.

Certificate of Citizenship issued by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)
A person born abroad who acquired U.S. citizenship at birth but who is over the age of 18 (and so not eligible for a CRBA) may wish to apply for a Certificate of Citizenship to document acquisition pursuant to 8 U.S.C. 1452. Visit USCIS.gov for further information.

Note: The United States Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) was an agency of the U.S. Department of Justice from 1933 to 2003.

Referred to by some as as “INS”, “former INS” and “legacy INS”, the agency ceased to exist under that name on March 1, 2003, when most of its functions were transferred to three new entities – U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) – within the newly created Department of Homeland Security (DHS), as part of a major government reorganization following the September 11 attacks of 2001.

With respect to currently unreleased documents relevant to Ted Cruz's citizenship (as well as naturalization, border crossings, etc.) they are in releasable via DHS and its agencies.
Only the U.S. Supreme Court can finally decide, determine judicially and settle this issue now since this matter is now before numerous Federal Circuit Court jurisdictions. However, interimly, the New York State Board of Elections is a ministerial body that must take the most obvious course of action and then leave matters of appeal for the appropriate litigation thereafter. The most obvious course is to determine, in light of the Birth Certificate of Ted Cruz (and his own intentional withholding of “natural born citizen” documentation that might compel a Board decision to the contrary), that Ted Cruz is NOT a “natural born citizen” and must have been naturalized in some way. As a naturalized citizen, Ted Cruz is NOT eligible to run for the office of President of the United States.

Suits in other states:


This issue is RIPE immediately because of the rules of the NYS Republican party. In addition, PROMPT response by the NYS Board of Elections is necessary to help prevent voter fraud.

1/26/16 – 2/16/16

Dates for nationally-known candidates or matching fund eligible candidates to file certificate with State Board requesting to appear on ballot. §2-122-b(3)(a-b)

2/24/16

Last day for SBOE to certify nationally-known or matching fund candidates. §2-122-b(3)(b)

3/22/16

Last day for presidential candidate to file certificate to have their name removed from the primary ballot. §2-122-b(3)(d)

4/18/16

Last day for presidential candidate to file certificate deeming any vote for such candidate to be a void vote. §2-122-b(3)(d)
Copy to:

Ted Cruz  
3333 Allen Parkway, APT. #1906  
Houston, TX 77019 

and 

US Senator Ted Cruz  
808 Travis Street, Suite 1420  
Houston, TX 77002