



Democratic Party of Hawaii Wants to Bar Independents

IndependentVoting.org mobilizing opposition



Are Hawaii's Democrats trying to slam the door on the independent voter? That's what Hawaii Public Radio host Chris Vandercook asked IndependentVoting.org President Jackie Salit this week on [The Conversation](#). Salit spoke about the changing character of the electorate (40% are independents), and that Hawaiians who don't want to be controlled by the political parties will be excluded if Hawaii closes its primaries. Paid for by donors, we've received dozens of emails and phone calls as a result of [our ad in the Star-Advertiser](#). We're gathering signatures for a letter which will be formally delivered to the Democratic Party at the end of the month. So please forward this to friends and family who live in Hawaii and ask them to [sign the letter](#).

Read [IndependentVoting.org](#) Director of Development John Opdycke's new column [The Public Mind](#) on the IVN news site for more details about the Hawaii fight.

Lobbying the President Commission on Election Administration (PCEA)

Independents must be included

The [President's Commission on Election Administration](#) finally posted [public comments](#) on its website this week after much pressure from independents and others. Read [IndependentVoting.org](#) President's Jackie Salit's letter, and testimony from Florida activist John Quinn.

Independents are planning on testifying and attending hearings at upcoming hearings in **Denver, Colorado (August 8)**, **Philadelphia, PA (September 4)** and **Ohio (September 20)**. We will present over 1,000 signatures on our letter to the Commission in Philadelphia.

Sign on to the Letter to the Presidential Commission on Election Administration.

"We, the undersigned, are independent voters from all 50 states. We are deeply concerned that America's political process is in a crisis and that serious attention must be paid to it..." >>

[If you already signed, make sure to get others to sign.](#)

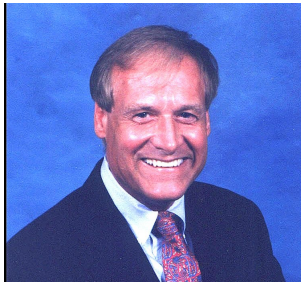
Volunteers Call Independents in Colorado

The independent to independent connection

The phones were buzzing with excitement as 33 independent activists from all 5 boroughs of New York City participated in a special phone mobilization calling independent voters in Colorado. The callers had a simple message for their fellow independents: *There's a movement of independents growing across the country and we want you to be part of it!* Colorado independents joined the IndependentVoting.org email network, signed on to the [Letter to the Commission on Presidential Elections](#) and pledged to attend the hearings in **Denver on August 8** at the History Colorado Center.



Independent Ohio Leader Attends Commission on Constitutional Modernization Meeting



Rick Robol, attorney and leader in [Independent Ohio](http://IndependentOhio.org), and member of the IndependentVoting.org's Election Reform Committee that is monitoring the PCEA, attended a meeting at Ohio State on July 10 sponsored by the **Ohio Commission on Constitutional Modernization**. The Committee was established with the passage of House Bill 188, and is charged with making recommendations to the general assembly for the amendment of the Ohio Constitution.

Rick testified before two committees that Ohio independents are interested in a "non-partisan process that would consider the merits of adopting a top two open primary system....While private political parties have a First Amendment right to freedom of association – including the right to conduct internal votes and to make internal decisions at their own expense – when taxpayer money is used, elections should be open to all voters, including independents." Members of the Committee indicated that they would like to hear more regarding top two open primaries, and Rick agreed to provide written testimony and to attend future hearings of the Commission.

California Activists Educate the Educators about Top Two and the Rights of Independents

Members of the Los Angeles chapter of California's IndependentVoice.Org (Dale Freeberg, Elliot Goldman and Cyndie Maher) and state director Jason Olson met with the LA Registrar of Voters office to address issues of independent voter education and participation ahead of the 2014 California Primary Election. The issue of voter education is critical at the moment, to insure that the 3.4 million independents in California are aware they can vote in the first round of the election now that the voters have enacted top two nonpartisan primaries. The Legislative Affairs director and the Assistant Registrar Recorder in charge of the Election Services requested that IndependentVoice.Org work on "key concepts and terminology" for outreach to independent voters along with a description of the top two primary.

Share the Hub with friends and ask them to subscribe.



[Subscribe here.](#)

Contact

IndependentVoting.org
225 Broadway Suite 2010
New York, NY 10007