

INDEPENDENT OHIO

For Immediate Release:

October 7, 2014

“Moving Beyond Partisanship” Public Forum hosted by Independent Ohio to Take Place at Lorain County Community College

“Moving Beyond Partisanship” is the theme of a public forum bringing together state and national leaders to be held at Lorain County Community College. The event is free and open to the public and will take place in Spitzer Center room 117 at 6:30 PM Friday, October 10th, 2014. The forum is being co-sponsored by Independent Ohio, a statewide association representing the concerns of independent voters, and the League of Women Voters of the Oberlin Area.

Participants include:

- Chad Peace, legal strategist for Independent Voter Project, co-founder of EndPartisanship.org and managing editor of Independent Voter Network
- Catherine Turcer, policy analyst for Common Cause Ohio
- Mark Brown, Constitutional Law Expert and Chair of Law at Capital University Law School
- William Todd, an Ohio lawyer specializing in legislation and government affairs
- Warren Edstrom, co-founder of TheVoicesOfAmerica.org
- David Cherry, founder of United Independents of Illinois
- Linda Mayer, vice president and program chair of the newly merged League of Women Voters of Greater Cleveland
- Jeff Riddell, member of the Citizens for Equal Representation Committee for a proposed change to Lorain County government
- Rick Robol, member of the Electoral Reform Committee of IndependentVoting.org and vice president of Independent Ohio
- Cynthia Carpathios, founder of Independent Ohio

A panel discussion will explore the growing independent/non-affiliated voter movement in Ohio and how it may alter the future of elections, political parties and government, and the relationship between the parties and independents.

Conference organizers hope to identify what voters, regardless of party affiliation or non-affiliation, may need to remain relevant in today’s political environment.

Panelists will be discussing issues ranging from the growing number of independents and their participation in the political process to the possibilities for structural reforms that can be more inclusive of this group of voters and can support a government less under the thrall of partisanship.

One of the reforms that will be explored is a change to the primary election system. “All taxpayers in Ohio pay for primary elections,” said Susan Doup of Independent Ohio. Since all taxpayers, regardless of their voter registration, are obliged to foot the bill for these elections, all taxpayers who are registered to vote should expect to have the right to vote for all candidates in all races at primary elections.”

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND INTERVIEWS CONTACT:

Susan Doup -440-213 1873
Independent Ohio
sddoup@zoominternet.net

Cynthia Carpathios
Independent Ohio
ccarpathios@independentohio.org
www.independentohio.org