



TAKE BACK ELECTIONS DRAFT LANGUAGE June 2017 - ADDITIONS/REVISIONS

Election Reform

Leveling the Playing Field:

Sweeping Comprehensive Election Reform

Together, these reforms are designed to ensure fair, transparent, secure, verifiable voting and elections.

This language is intended to be enacted via uniform amendments to the constitutions of all 50 states, as well as by an amendment to our federal constitution

Amendment Outline Draft

Part II: Prior to Elections

Voter Issues and Concerns

1. Voter Registration

a. Automatic registration: Voter registration for all citizens will be automatic at the age of 18. Official notice of registration and non-photo voter identification cards will be sent to each voter by the Secretary of State* (Discuss - federal or state?). The non-photo voter identification cards can later be exchanged for photo versions should the voter wish at the registrar's office or at the polls when voting. These cards will have no cost to voters* (Poll must be equipped with cameras and card printers).

b. Same-day voter registration: Same-day voter registration will also be available at polling places.* (Same-day registration can be accomplished with some form or combination thereof of the following acceptable ID and/or paperwork for these 3 requirements —It may be 1 or a multiple of these following forms of identification, including numerous ones that would not create any undue hardship on any voter. See Part II, #2.)

c. Voting rights of Ex-Offenders (Non-Violent Ex-Offenders): Those convicted of non-violent offenses will be allowed to vote and re-register after they have completed their sentencing, served their time, and parole (if relevant). They may be required to provide documentation of this completion to confirm online records in order to register, check on, or correct/change registration data.



d. Process of registration: Registration will be conducted in the following ways* (should the automatic registration miss anyone):

i. Voters can register in person or online and check on their automatic registrations for completeness and accuracy. If a citizen is not registered, or there are registration inaccuracies, that citizen can register, correct inaccuracies, and/or change party affiliation* (Discuss if continuing to have Party Affiliations as voter data within our new system), at the county clerk's office, online, Secretary of States offices or other offices maintaining this information or at polling places on election days.

ii. Automatically registered voters will initially be registered with No Party Preference (NPP), but can change this to a party of the voter's choosing in any of the above ways.* (Discuss party information)

iii. NPP voters will have the option to ask for the ballot of the party of their choosing at their polling station. NPP voters will have the option to be identified with a specific party affiliation if they so choose, regardless, their ballots will be regular ballots, not provisional ballots.* (Again, DISCUSS Party data relevancy)

iv. Citizens will receive a screenshot printout, stub, and/or other, traditional copy or carbon-copy receipt for their voter registrations when registering, updating, or correcting them online or in person.* (Voters will bring these receipts each time they vote or until they receive their automatically issued Voter ID cards. If all else fails, and to prevent any undue hardship, voters without these receipts or cards can same-day register with documentation and/or will be asked/allowed to sign affidavits as to their identity, voting age and citizenship, to be checked later by the registrar's office. – DISCUSS what type of ballot with affidavits – regular, provisional?)



2. Voter Identification

There are 3 requirements to become a registered voter: 1) Proof of identity, 2) U.S. citizenship, 3) proof of residence.

a. Voter identification will be required at the polls. Voters should have been issued free voter ID cards. If not, one or several of the following options can be used to prove identity or for meeting criteria for registering if not registered. There will be three requirements to become a registered voter and obtain legal voter identification when it has not been provided automatically: 1) Proof of identity, 2) U.S. citizenship, 3) proof of residence. Acceptable proofs for these requirements will include 1 or a combination of the following:* (other identification options?)

- U.S. Passport
- Social Security Card
- State Drivers License
- State photo ID
- School ID or School registration acceptance paperwork* ('away from home' students to be considered 'living' at their school location, not at another residential location, and can always sign an affidavit as to their identity)
- Birth Certificate
- Voter Registration Card
- State or Federal Government ID
- Bank Statement, Bank Card, Credit or Debit Card
- Utility Bill
- Residential Mortgage or Rental Contract
- Sworn Affidavit of Voter Identity* (*Penalties for providing false identification to vote or registering to vote: A Class C Misdemeanor, which is subject to fines up to \$1,000 and/or a jail sentence of up to 3 months. DISCUSS*) (<http://www.legalmatch.com/law-library/article/classes-of-misdemeanors.html#sthash.gWdDjHYo.dpuf>)

b. Official voter registration identification cards will be provided immediately at the offices established for this purpose or at the polls when registration is conducted in person, or by mail when the citizen is automatically registered, re-registering, or changing registration information online. Voter identification will be free of charge.



c. Those who are homeless will be allowed to vote by meeting the 3 criteria and in their case may establish locale through affiliated assistance or recognition of vicinity lived in by individuals or helping agencies letter or statement to this effect.

3. Voter Records and Oversight of Voter Rolls: Public staff of each state and county will maintain accurate voter registration records using available voter information, including Social Security information, Birth and Death records, change of address records forwarded to each state's Secretary of State by the U.S. Post Office, Department of Motor Vehicles, etc.

a. Each state's Secretary of State's office must maintain accurate records of current registered voters and of those citizens approaching age 18. Names of registered voters who have died will be removed upon notification by the Social Security Administration and/or other offices handling death records such as coroners and the like* (what other offices?). Public access to these records will be limited to voters' names, party affiliations* (discuss), and number of times votes were cast in elections during the previous five years. Other information such as voter's residence, mailing address, photo, and signature, will be protected. All records will be maintained by government agencies exclusively.

b. Political parties will not have access to records beyond that which is made publicly available and will keep their own records of party affiliates.

c. With the above privacy changes, voter signature match will be allowed as identification at sign-in for voting on election days.* (Signatures will be required, as they are now?) Voter identification cards (photo or non-photo cards) or other data in the identification list can be used to identify a registered voter coming to the polls to vote.

*(VAN – selling of allowed, public voter data – maybe small fees for cost to provide data requested..?)

<http://mattforney.com/dnc-leak-voter-fraud/> _



5. The Secretary of State or office overseeing and maintaining state voter registration rolls will regularly modify/update voter rolls, at least every 6 months and 2 months prior to an election in order to identify: 1) people known to have permanently moved, 2) people known to have died according to death certificate reports, coroners offices, public records* sent by these offices to the Secretary of States offices or investigated, by the offices charged with maintaining our public voter rolls at local and state, and 3) citizens who have reached the age 18 according to birth records,* (sent by whom? DISCUSS) . State motor vehicle registration data will be used to help identify locale/residency. Updating will happen every February and July, or more frequently as offices may prefer to accomplish this work.* (Crosscheck or other screening to detect voter fraud may not be used unless it is 'crosschecked' with the criteria here for verification of its data and not abused.)

6. The Secretary of State's office or office overseeing and maintaining state voter registration rolls must publicize its list of purged voters. (State attorneys do publicize lists of parents who fail to pay child support.)

7. Open Elections/Open Primaries will be part of the reforms as there will now be only public elections and parties will separately, with their own processes and funding, elect their representative candidates outside of our publicly funded system. There will, however, be a primary-style run-off set of elections in our new process.

8. Sample ballots and election information: Sample ballots and election information will be mailed to all registered voters 2 weeks before each election. These watermarked sample ballot mailings will also include poll locations and voter guides with informational statements on candidates and propositions, and links to online information on candidates and ballot questions. This information shall also be available online, in public offices, public libraries, etc. If a voter does not get such notification, s/he should contact the appropriate office.* (County Registrar, or?)



9. Ballot access in all 50 states will be easily achieved by:

- a. All political parties and individuals running for office – *add simple qualifying criteria?? Who will do this^^^??
- b. Write-in candidates
 - all write-in candidates allowed. Candidates follow current ‘official’ write-in policy (state rules*) but if this is not met for official write-in candidates, others can be added as a write-in and will count. (DISCUSS*)
- c. Voters via Same-Day Registration, or prior automatic registration at the age of 18 or other time frame for voter registration.
- d. Citizen access via direct democracy Ballot Initiative, Referendum, and Recall now made available in all states, territories and districts via Federal Amendment when ultimately passed (more in Part VII*)

10. Voting method/styles considered:

- a. Approval
- b. Range or Score
- c. Ranked Choice or Instant Run-Off
- d. First Pass the Post with a new Majority requirement and Automatic Run-Off elections, as needed

(DISCUSS*)

11. Election Duty (like Jury Duty) – U.S. Citizens, age 18 and older will be placed in a pool of registered voters and non-registered voters, with exception for ex-offenders, to be trained and called-up for service to ‘Election-Duty’, as with Jury selection, Jury duty and training. There will be a small monetary payment, as with Jury Duty, for this service.

12. Election Day worker selection, training, and training review prior to working at elections/polls, as is, though improved and changed as needed. Use current best practices - research as protocol addendum! – WHO can assist with training best practices protocol as add-on/addendum here?)