

National Survey: Americans Are Ready for Primary Reform and Ranked Choice Voting

Voters cite a healthy, representative democracy as essential purpose for action

WASHINGTON, **D.C.** – A new national survey released by Centerline Liberties found the American public is eager for commonsense primary election reform.

"Over the years Centerline has polled issues of importance to the American people from maternal health to clean energy and election reform. This latest national survey sends a clear message that Americans are more united than divided, and are eager for reforms that will heal our broken politics. Lawmakers should take note and prioritize taking action on positive, commonsense reforms that will encourage greater voter participation and reward leaders who best reflect their constituents," said **James Dozier**, President of Centerline Liberties.

"According to the survey data, Americans desire meaningful changes to the primary process, supporting specific reform proposals that would promote a healthy democracy. Support for the common sense reforms tested demonstrate Americans' strong desire to implement changes to counter partisanship and extremism in the primary process," said **Alex Lundry**, a GOP pollster and founder of Redbud Consulting.

"This poll helps explain why we're seeing a <u>record number</u> of initiatives on state ballots this year for open primaries. Americans are eager for a solution to our government dysfunction," said **Nick Troiano**, Executive Director of Unite America and author of <u>The Primary Solution:</u>

Rescuing our <u>Democracy from the Fringes</u>. "Republicans, Democrats, and independents alike overwhelmingly agree that opening taxpayer-funded primaries to every voter is a realistic, necessary solution."

Notable survey results on support for primary election reform:

Voters worry about primaries producing extreme candidates.

 68% of American voters agreed that "The current primary system tends to produce candidates who are not reflective of the broader electorate, favoring more extreme positions. Changing the system would result in a more representative selection of candidates."

 Majorities of Republicans (62%), Democrats (74%), and Independents (68%) agree with this statement.

Ranked choice voting has plurality support.

• With a net support of +6, ranked choice voting enjoys more support than opposition.

A great deal of reforms enjoy majority support from across the political spectrum.

- Open primaries are supported by 55% of Independents, 66% of Democrats and 51% of Republicans.
- Top-two primaries have the backing of 52% of Independents, 70% of Democrats and 59% of Republicans.

Electoral reform is supported across the country including in key swing states like Arizona and Michigan.

• Modeling of state-level estimates indicates that on average about 68% of registered voters in each state agree with our statement that "Primary reform is essential."

Click <u>here</u> to read the memo detailing the full findings of survey data on Primary Reform.

Methodology

The survey was fielded September 12-16, 2024 via mixed mode methodology cell phones, landlines, online and text-to-web) by Redbud Consulting among 800 registered voters. The margin of error is +/- 3%.

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Centerline Liberties is a nonprofit focused on advancing policy solutions capable of defending core constitutional liberties, preserving a free market economy, and limiting the role of government in Americans' everyday lives.