



INITIATIVE PETITION

To the Honorable John Kevin Stitt,
Governor of Oklahoma:

We the undersigned legal voters of the State of Oklahoma respectfully order that the following proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be submitted to the legal voters of the State of Oklahoma for their approval or rejection at the next regular general election (or at a special election as may be lawfully called by the Governor), and each for himself says: I have personally signed this petition; I am a legal voter of the State of Oklahoma; my first name, last name, zip code, house number, and month and day of my birth are correctly written on this form. The time for filing this petition expires ninety (90) days from _____. The question we herewith submit to our fellow voters is:

Shall the following proposed amendment to the Oklahoma Constitution be approved?

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA THAT A NEW ARTICLE 3A OF THE OKLAHOMA CONSTITUTION BE APPROVED:

CONSTITUTION OF OKLAHOMA, ARTICLE 3A -- OPEN PRIMARIES

SECTION 1. APPLICATION

This Article shall govern the process for primary and general elections for the following elected offices: statewide offices, county offices, district attorney, members of the state legislature, members of the United States Congress (hereinafter, "covered offices"). This Article shall not apply to the election for the

We are asking for Oklahomans to have the chance to vote on a proposed amendment to our State Constitution.

The Governor will determine when Oklahomans can vote on this amendment. We have asked for the November 2026 general election date, which is the next election in which most Oklahomans will participate.

Once court hurdles are cleared and the Secretary of State sets a start date, we will have 90 days to collect 172,993 signatures in support of this petition.

We're proposing to reform Oklahoma's system of "closed primaries" for statewide, county and both state and federal legislative offices. Our proposal won't impact races for president, mayor, judges, or school board.



office of Presidential Elector, municipal offices, judicial offices, school board members, or any other office not specified herein as a “covered office.”

SECTION 2. OPEN PRIMARIES

A. The primary election process for covered offices shall consist of an “open primary election.” In an open primary election, all candidates for a covered office shall appear on the same ballot without regard to the candidates’ affiliation or lack of affiliation with any political party and without regard to whether the candidates have been nominated or endorsed by any political party. Any qualified voter may vote for any candidate for a covered office, without regard to the voter’s affiliation or lack of affiliation with any political party.

Moving to “open primaries” ends the current system of separate and exclusionary Republican, Democratic and Libertarian primaries. In an open primary, all candidates appear on one primary ballot with their name and party affiliation. All lawfully registered voters may vote in the open primary.

B. A voter in an open primary election may vote for only one candidate for each covered office.

Every voter may vote for only one candidate per office.

C. The two candidates who receive the most votes in the open primary election shall advance to the general election, without regard to their affiliation or lack of affiliation with any political party and without regard to whether the candidates have been nominated or endorsed by any political party.

The two candidates with the most votes in a primary election move on to a general election.

D. If only two candidates qualify to appear on the ballot in the primary election for a covered office, then those two candidates shall automatically advance to the general election, without regard to the candidates’ affiliation or lack of affiliation with any political party.

If only two candidates file for a given office, there isn’t a primary. They move on to one general election.

SECTION 3. GENERAL ELECTIONS

Only those two candidates advancing from the open primary election according to Section 2 of this Article shall appear on the general election ballot for covered offices; however, the Oklahoma Legislature may, by statute, create a procedure to be followed if a candidate who has advanced according to Section 2 will not participate in the general election due to death, withdrawal from the race, or disqualification.

If a candidate were, for instance, to drop out of a race for health reasons after advancing from a primary, the Legislature can create a process to replace him or her on a general election ballot.



SECTION 4. CANDIDATE BALLOT ORDER AND POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION

In both open primary elections and general elections for all covered offices:

A. Candidates shall appear on the ballot in a randomized order.

B. The ballot shall state, next to the candidate's name, each candidate's political party affiliation or unaffiliated status as of the date of candidate filing. A candidate does not need to seek or gain approval of the political party to have their affiliation with that party reflected on the ballot. Every ballot shall contain a statement informing voters that a candidate's indicated party affiliation does not imply that the candidate is nominated or endorsed by the political party or that the party approves of or associates with that candidate.

The ballot will look just like it does today with a candidate's name listed along with their party candidate's affiliation. Party affiliation is whatever the candidate's voter registration is listed as at the time he or she files.

SECTION 5. REPEALER

Article 3, Section 3 of this Constitution is hereby repealed.

SECTION 6. SEVERABILITY

The provisions of this Article are severable, and if any part or provision hereof shall be held void, invalid, or unconstitutional, the decision of the court so holding shall not affect or impair any of the remaining parts or provisions hereof, and the remaining provisions hereof shall continue in full force and effect.

Lawyers made us add this! It says this is a constitutional amendment that overrules any conflicting state statute. If a court strikes down one part of this amendment, the rest of the amendment is unaffected.

SECTION 7. MISCELLANEOUS

The procedures described herein regarding open primary elections and general elections for a covered office shall apply to any special elections for covered offices.

All provisions of this Constitution, state statute, and common law of Oklahoma to the extent inconsistent or in conflict with any provision of this Amendment are expressly declared null and void as to, and do not apply to, any activities provided for under this Amendment.



The Legislature may enact legislation to facilitate the operation of this Amendment, but no law shall limit, restrict or conflict with the provisions hereof.

SECTION 8. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Article shall take effect 90 days after the date this Article is approved by the People; provided that, if the candidate filing period for a particular election begins before this Article is approved by the People, then this Article shall not apply to that election.

This amendment will begin impacting elections that have filing deadlines 90 days after voters approve it at the ballot box.

