

TOP TWO CANDIDATES OPEN PRIMARY ACT



BACKGROUND



- On June 8, 2010, California voters approved Proposition 14, which created the Top Two Candidates Open Primary Act.
- Allows all voters to choose any candidate regardless of the candidate's or voter's political party preference.
(except for President and Central Committees)
- This act requires that only the top two vote getters in a 'Voter Nominated' office will move onto the November General Election.

OFFICE CATEGORIES

OFFICES	WHO CAN VOTE	PARTY APPEARANCE ON BALLOT
<p><u>Party-Nominated</u> Are contests in which the nominee is selected by the political party</p>	<p>Only party members can vote for the party candidates, except where cross-over voting is allowed</p>	<p>Candidates' party preferences ALWAYS appear on the ballot</p>
<p><u>Voter Nominated</u> Are contests in which the nominee is selected by the voter</p>	<p>All voters, regardless of party preference can vote for any candidate.</p>	<p>Candidates' party preferences ALWAYS appear on the ballot</p>
<p><u>Nonpartisan (Local)</u> An office in which no political party nominates a candidate</p>	<p>All voters can vote for these candidates</p>	<p>Candidates' party preferences NEVER appear on the ballot</p>

OFFICE CATEGORIES

BEFORE

NOW

2 OFFICE CATEGORIES	
PARTISAN OFFICES	NONPARTISAN (LOCAL) OFFICES
President	County Offices
U.S. Senator	City Offices
U.S. Representatives	Special District Offices
Governor	School District Offices
Lt. Governor	Superintendent of Public Instruction
Secretary of State	
State Treasurer	
Controller	
Insurance Commissioner	
Board of Equalization	
State Senator	
Attorney General	
County Central Committees	

3 OFFICE CATEGORIES		
PARTY-NOMINATED OFFICES	VOTER NOMINATED OFFICES	NONPARTISAN (LOCAL) OFFICES
President	U.S. Senator	County Offices
County Central Committees	U.S. Representative	City Offices
	Governor	Special District Offices
	Lt. Governor	School District Offices
	Secretary of State	Superintendent of Public Instruction
	State Treasurer	
	Controller	
	Insurance Commissioner	
	Board of Equalization	
	State Senator	
	Attorney General	

Before the Top Two Candidates Open Primary Act, the top vote getter from each qualified party would move onto the November Election

NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION



JUNE PRIMARY ELECTION



American Independent



Democrat



Green



Libertarian



Peace & Freedom



Republican

- Now with the Top Two Candidates Open Primary Act, the top two vote getters regardless of party preference, will move onto the November Election.
- This only applies to 'Voter-Nominated Offices'

NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION



JUNE PRIMARY ELECTION



POSSIBILITY

There could be a possibility that the two candidates that receives the most votes who move on to the November General Election will be in the same political party



HOW DOES THIS AFFECT WRITE-IN CANDIDATES?

- You may write in a qualified write-in candidate's name on the ballot in a **Primary Election contest**.
- In the **General Election**, you may only write-in a qualified candidates name in a Party-Nominated contest. Write-in votes are not allowed in a Voter-Nominated contest.

WHY?

REMEMBER:

Only the top two vote getters will move onto the November General Election.

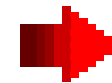
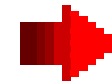
- Voting for President and Central Committees does not change
- In the example below, the voter is registered as a Republican, so they will receive a Republican Party ballot with a list of Republican candidates running for President and Central Committees

OFFICIAL BALLOT
REPUBLICAN PARTY
 ALAMEDA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
 JUNE 5, 2012 STATEWIDE DIRECT PRIMARY ELECTION

213000

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: USE BLACK OR BLUE BALLPOINT PEN ONLY. To vote for a candidate of your choice, complete the arrow to the right of the candidate's name. To vote for a qualified write-in candidate, PRINT the person's name in the blank space provided and COMPLETE the arrow. To vote on any measure, complete the arrow after the word "Yes" or "No."

PARTISAN OFFICES	VOTER NOMINATED OFFICES	NONPARTISAN
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES	UNITED STATES SENATOR	JUDICIAL
Vote for One	Vote for One	Vote for One
John Madden Republican	Al Davis Team Owner	Will Smith Actor
Howie Long Republican	Joe Montana Quarterback	Beyonce Knowles Singer/Actor
COUNTY COMMITTEE	UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE	SCHOOL
MEMBER, COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE SIXTEENTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT Vote for no more than Six	Vote for One	MEMBER, BOARD OF EDUCATION, 3RD TRUSTEE AREA Vote for One
Michael Jordan Republican	Pete Rose Third Baseman	Madonna Singer/Actor
Larry Bird Republican	Barry Bonds Left Fielder	Celine Dion Singer/Entrepreneur
Phil Jackson Republican	MEMBER OF THE STATE ASSEMBLY	DISTRICT
Magic Johnson Republican	Vote for One	ZONE 7 FLOOD CONTROL Vote for no more than Three
Brad Pitt Republican	Jose Canseco Baseball General Manager	Ozzy Osborne Singer/Reality Star
Jennifer Lopez Republican	Billy "Moneyball" Beane Baseball General Manager	Paula Deen Chef/Entrepreneur
George Clooney Republican		



PARTY-NOMINATED OFFICES

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Vote for One

John Madden Republican

Howie Long Republican

COUNTY COMMITTEE

MEMBER, COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE
SIXTEENTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT
Vote for no more than Six

Michael Jordan Republican

Larry Bird Republican

Phil Jackson Republican

Magic Johnson Republican

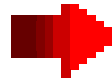
Brad Pitt Republican

Jennifer Lopez Republican

George Clooney Republican



NEW



- Voting for all other Statewide Offices have changed.
- All candidates running, regardless of their party preference, will appear on a single combined ballot, and voters can vote for any candidate from any political party

VOTER NOMINATED OFFICES	
UNITED STATES SENATOR	
vote for one	
OPRAH WINFREY Party Preference: DEM TV Host/Entrepreneur	← █
JERRY SPRINGER Party Preference: REP TV Host	← █
BILL GATES Party Preference: PF Co-Founder	← █
ELLEN DEGENERES Party Preference: GRN TV Host/Comedian	← █
RACHAEL RAY Party Preference: AI Chef/Entrepreneur	← █
MARK ZUCKERBERG Party Preference: LIB Co-Founder/Entrepreneur	← █
OZZY OSBORNE Party Preference: DEM Singer/Reality Star	← █
PAULA DEEN Party Preference: PF Chef	← █
WILL SMITH Party Preference: LIB Actor	← █
MADONNA Party Preference: GRN Singer/Actor	← █
	← █



OFFICES THAT APPEAR ON A PARTISAN BALLOT

BEFORE

NOW

OFFICIAL BALLOT 213000
DEMOCRATIC PARTY
 ALAMEDA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
 JUNE 3, 2008 STATEWIDE DIRECT PRIMARY ELECTION

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: USE BLACK OR BLUE BALLPOINT PEN ONLY. To vote for a candidate of your choice, complete the arrow to the right of the candidate's name. To vote for a qualified write-in candidate, PRINT the person's name in the blank space provided and COMPLETE the arrow. To vote on any measure, complete the arrow after the word "Yes" or "No."

PARTISAN OFFICES	COUNTY COMMITTEE	NONPARTISAN
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES	MEMBER, COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE SIXTEENTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT Vote for no more than Six:	JUDICIAL
Vote for One	Michael Jordan Guard/Owner	Vote for One
John Madden Coach	Larry Bird Shooting Forward/GM	Will Smith Actor
Howie Long Defensive Tackle	Phil Jackson Power Forward/Coach	Beyonce Knowles Singer/Actor
	Magic Johnson Point Guard/Businessman	
UNITED STATES SENATOR	Brad Pitt Actor	SCHOOL
Vote for One	Jennifer Lopez Singer/Actor	MEMBER, BOARD OF EDUCATION, 3RD TRUSTEE AREA Vote for One
Al Davis Team Owner	George Clooney Actor/Producer/Director	Madonna Singer/Actor
Joe Montana Quarterback		Celine Dion Singer/Entrepreneur
UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE		DISTRICT
Vote for One		ZONE 7 FLOOD CONTROL Vote for no more than Three
Pete Rose Third Baseman		Ozzy Osborne Singer/Reality Star
Barry Bonds Left Fielder		Paula Deen Chef/Entrepreneur

OFFICIAL BALLOT 213000
DEMOCRATIC PARTY
 ALAMEDA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
 JUNE 5, 2012 STATEWIDE DIRECT PRIMARY ELECTION

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: USE BLACK OR BLUE BALLPOINT PEN ONLY. To vote for a candidate of your choice, complete the arrow to the right of the candidate's name. To vote for a qualified write-in candidate, PRINT the person's name in the blank space provided and COMPLETE the arrow. To vote on any measure, complete the arrow after the word "Yes" or "No."

PARTY-NOMINATED OFFICES	VOTER NOMINATED OFFICES	NONPARTISAN
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES	UNITED STATES SENATOR	JUDICIAL
Vote for One	Vote for One	Vote for One
John Madden Coach	Al Davis My Party Preference is the Democratic Party Team Owner	Will Smith Actor
Howie Long Defensive Tackle	Joe Montana My Party Preference is the Republican Party Quarterback	Beyonce Knowles Singer/Actor
	Bill Gates My Party Preference is the Green Party Co-Founder/Entrepreneur	
COUNTY COMMITTEE	Ellen Degeneres My Party Preference is the Libertarian Party TV Host/Comedian	SCHOOL
MEMBER, COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE SIXTEENTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT Vote for no more than Six:		MEMBER, BOARD OF EDUCATION, 3RD TRUSTEE AREA Vote for One
Michael Jordan Guard/Owner		Madonna Singer/Actor
Larry Bird Shooting Forward/GM	UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE	Celine Dion Singer/Entrepreneur
Phil Jackson Power Forward/Coach	Vote for One	
Magic Johnson Point Guard/Businessman	Pete Rose My Party Preference is the Green Party Third Baseman	DISTRICT
Brad Pitt Actor	Barry Bonds My Party Preference is the Democratic Party Left Fielder	ZONE 7 FLOOD CONTROL Vote for no more than Three
Jennifer Lopez Singer/Actor	Paula Deen My Party Preference is the Republican Party Chef	Ozzy Osborne Singer/Reality Star
George Clooney Actor/Producer/Director		Paula Deen Chef/Entrepreneur

OFFICES THAT APPEAR ON A NONPARTISAN BALLOT

BEFORE

NOW

OFFICIAL BALLOT
NONPARTISAN
ALAMEDA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
JUNE 3, 2008 STATEWIDE DIRECT PRIMARY ELECTION

213000

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: USE BLACK OR BLUE BALLPOINT PEN ONLY. To vote for a candidate of your choice, complete the arrow to the right of the candidate's name. To vote for a qualified write-in candidate, PRINT the person's name in the blank space provided and COMPLETE the arrow. To vote on any measure, complete the arrow after the word "Yes" or "No."

← ← ←

NONPARTISAN

JUDICIAL

Vote for One

Will Smith
Actor ← →

Beyonce Knowles
Singer/Actor ← →

_____ ← →

SCHOOL

MEMBER, BOARD OF EDUCATION,
3RD TRUSTEE AREA
Vote for One

Madonna
Singer/Actor ← →

Celine Dion
Singer/Entrepreneur ← →

_____ ← →

DISTRICT

ZONE 7 FLOOD CONTROL
Vote for no more than Three

Ozzy Osborne
Singer/Reality Star ← →

Paula Deen
Chef/Entrepreneur ← →

_____ ← →

OFFICIAL BALLOT
NONPARTISAN
ALAMEDA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
JUNE 5, 2012 STATEWIDE DIRECT PRIMARY ELECTION

213000

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: USE BLACK OR BLUE BALLPOINT PEN ONLY. To vote for a candidate of your choice, complete the arrow to the right of the candidate's name. To vote for a qualified write-in candidate, PRINT the person's name in the blank space provided and COMPLETE the arrow. To vote on any measure, complete the arrow after the word "Yes" or "No."

← ← ←

NONPARTISAN

JUDICIAL

Vote for One

Will Smith
Actor ← →

Beyonce Knowles
Singer/Actor ← →

_____ ← →

SCHOOL

MEMBER, BOARD OF EDUCATION,
3RD TRUSTEE AREA
Vote for One

Madonna
Singer/Actor ← →

Celine Dion
Singer/Entrepreneur ← →

_____ ← →

DISTRICT

ZONE 7 FLOOD CONTROL
Vote for no more than Three

Ozzy Osborne
Singer/Reality Star ← →

Paula Deen
Chef/Entrepreneur ← →

_____ ← →

VOTER NOMINATED OFFICES

UNITED STATES SENATOR

Vote for One

Al Davis
My Party Preference is the Democratic Party
Team Owner ← →

Joe Montana
My Party Preference is the Republican Party
Quarterback ← →

Bill Gates
My Party Preference is the Green Party
Co-Founder/Entrepreneur ← →

Ellen Degeneres
My Party Preference is the Libertarian Party
TV Host/Comedian ← →

_____ ← →

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE

Vote for One

Pete Rose
My Party Preference is the Green Party
Third Baseman ← →

Barry Bonds
My Party Preference is the Democratic Party
Left Fielder ← →

Paula Deen
My Party Preference is the Republican Party
Chef ← →

_____ ← →

SUMMARY



TO VOTE FOR...

PRESIDENT AND CENTRAL COMMITTEES

- Must be registered with a qualified party
- Exception – CROSS-OVER VOTING

ALL OTHER STATEWIDE OFFICES (Voter Nominated Offices)

- Can be registered with any or no party

- Only the top two vote-getters in a Voter Nominated office will move onto the November General Election