CHANGES TO VOTER REGISTRATION FORMS: SUGGESTIONS FROM INDEPENDENT PARTY OF OREGON



April 6, 2015

IPO recommends that the online voter registration form include this:

If you are not a member of any party, and a major party allows you to vote in its primary election (an "open" primary), do you want to receive that party's ballot as part of your primary election vote-by-mail package?				
Democratic Party (currently not open) Independent Party (currently open) Republican Party (currently not open)	□ Yes □ Yes □ Yes	□ No		

IPO recommends that the paper voter registration form include this, which would require fewer changes as the major parties open or close their primaries to NAVs:

If you are not a member of any party, and a major party allows you to vote in its primary election, do you want to receive that party's ballot as part of your primary election vote-by-mail package?

Democratic Party	□ Yes	□ No
Independent Party	□ Yes	□ No
Republican Party	□ Yes	□ No

Including this option on the voter registration forms would allow each NAV to express her wishes as to receiving ballots of any major party that chooses to open its primary to NAVs under ORS 254.470. Checking the "yes" box would constitute notice to the county clerk, under ORS 254.470(3)(c), that the elector wishes to vote in the primary election of a major party, if offered that opportunity. It would not be necessary for that elector to provide separate written notice to the county clerk for each future primary election.

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