Washington Secretary of State
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Advisory Issue: 03 Provisional Ballots
November 30, 2007

Voters wishing to participate in the February 19, 2008, Presidential Primary must sign a political party oath.

Provisional ballot voters must also sign an oath to participate. There are three different ways this can be accomplished:

1. Add the oaths to the provisional ballot envelope.
    a. This may require redesigning and printing another envelope.
    b. The oaths would be included on the envelope when sending provisional ballots to other counties.
    c. If there is room on the envelope near the voter's signature, the oaths could be printed on a label and added to the provisional ballot envelope.
    d. If you do not receive many provisional ballots in your county, printing new envelopes would be an expensive solution.

2. Print the oaths on a separate sheet of paper and include the signed oath inside the provisional ballot envelope.
    a. For vote-by-mail counties, this may be a good solution. The number of provisional voters is usually low and this method does not require a different envelope.
    b. When sending provisional ballots to another county, the oath would already be included in the envelope.
    c. This method requires the voter to sign twice, once on the provisional ballot envelope and also sheet containing the party oaths.

3. Use a poll book that includes the oaths.
    a. Poll site counties have the oaths printed in the poll book and provide special pages for provisional ballot voters.
    b. Vote-by-mail counties may also use this method
    c. When sending provisional ballots to another county, a copy of the poll book would have to be included with the ballot.

Each county must choose the method that will work best in their county. Please call (360) 902-4180 with any questions you many have.

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