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Hot Political News**August 18, 2010****Murray Re-nominated, but Under 50%**

The unusual Washington State primary is actually one of the best pre-general election polls available. With all of the candidates placed on one ballot and voters having only one choice per office, the primary results are often a strong predictor for the upcoming November election. The 2010 mid-term is now just eleven weeks away.

**Sen. Patty Murray** (D) easily won the Democratic nomination last night, but will likely finish with under 50% of the total vote. With the state's mail election system that allows ballots to be post-marked on Election Day, it takes several days, if not a full week, to complete the count. With about 59% of the vote tabulated, and only half of huge King County reporting, Murray attracted **46%** of the total vote. King County, which houses the Seattle metropolitan area, is heavily Democratic so Murray's total could rise by a point or so.

Republican former gubernatorial nominee and businessman **Dino Rossi** won the GOP nomination getting **34%** in what is often termed the "jungle" primary. Ex-professional football player **Clint Didier** was second in the GOP column with **12%**. Total turnout, thus far in the counting, shows approximately 475,000 Republican votes and 460,000 Democratic. This will likely change substantially when all of King County reports. Still, only breaking even in primary turnout in a state the Democrats dominate could mean that the Senate race and at least two congressional races will be highly competitive in the general election.

Turning to the US House, all incumbents broke the 50% mark with the exception of 2nd district **Rep. Rick Larsen** and 8th district incumbent **Dave Reichert**. In the open 3rd district (**Rep. Brian Baird** retiring), former state House Majority Leader **Denny Heck** (D) placed first with **32%**, followed closely by Republican state Rep. **Jaime Herrera's 27%**. The total 3rd district turnout count, at this tabulation point, shows the Republicans attracting over 63,000 cumulative votes to the Democrats' 53,000. Sixty-nine percent of the precincts have been counted in this race. WA-3 is a marginal seat, so this open district will be hotly contested in November.

The surprise of the night was in the 2nd district. Rep. Larsen, originally elected in 2000, will clearly face his toughest re-election contest as he scored only **43%** of the vote with 69% counted. The Republican nominee will be Snohomish County Commissioner and former state Rep. **John Koster** who notched **41%** of the vote. Koster was Larsen's first congressional opponent when the 2nd district was last open and held the Congressman to a 50-46% victory in that year. Though this current campaign has attracted little in the way of national attention, the closeness of the jungle primary suggests that WA-2 will rapidly move up the national target lists. So far, turnout favors the Democrats by about 7,000 votes.

Closer to Seattle, GOP Rep. Reichert, always in a tough race in this marginal seat, scored **48%** of the vote last night but easily outdistanced his Democratic opponent **Suzan DelBene's 26%**. Total Republican turnout exceeded the Democrats' by about 18,000 participants with just over half the precincts tabulated.

Wyoming also held a primary election last night. The Republicans featured a tight three-way gubernatorial race that could be headed to a recount. Former US Attorney **Matt Mead** appears to have won the GOP nomination attracting **29%** of the vote to state Auditor **Rita Meyer's 28%** and former state

Agriculture Department director **Ron Micheli** scoring **26%**. **Colin Simpson**, the state House Speaker and son of former **Sen. Alan Simpson**, managed only **16%**. It is likely that Mead will hold onto the nomination and be elected Governor in November. Republicans swamped Democrats in terms of turnout. More than 105,000 people voted in the GOP primary versus just 14,000 who chose the Democratic ballot. Former state Democratic Party chair **Leslie Petersen** was an easy winner last night, but the general election is not expected to be competitive. Democratic **Gov. Dave Freudenthal** is term-limited and was ineligible to seek a third term.

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McDONALD (Catherine Blinn, 8/16/10)

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1 Q Let's see. You said you supervised -- and I caught the --  
2 I missed the other verb, but supervised and something the  
3 training and certification program. Do you recall that?

4 A Um-hmm.

5 Q As part of that program do you train local election  
6 officials in connection with the procedures for certifying  
7 an election?

8 A I do not personally, but the program does. Yes.

9 Q Does the program deal at all with the certification of PCO  
10 elections?

11 A It comes up periodically. It doesn't come up very often,  
12 because in the context of all election -- all races and  
13 ballot measures, they get certified. PCO elections are  
14 just one of quite a few types. So it comes up, but not  
15 very much.

16 Q Is there any training in connection with the 10 percent  
17 threshold in PCO elections?

18 A We have a WAC, and really the training would be relevant to  
19 the WAC, that the 10 percent rule that applied under the  
20 Pick-A-Party Primary does not apply under the Top Two  
21 Primary.

22 Q Is the 10 percent rule still in the statute?

23 A The RCW is still on the books, yeah.

24 Q And I take it in some fashion you have a regulation that  
25 says ignore it; is that correct?

McDONALD (Catherine Blinn, 8/16/10)

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1 A The WAC explains that it's no longer in effect under the --  
2 under Initiative 872, under the law for Initiative 872,  
3 because if you think about a percent, there's really no  
4 denominator anymore. There's no - the 10 percent rule was  
5 to state that each PCO candidate had to receive at least  
6 10 percent of the votes cast for a candidate of that same  
7 party in that precinct. I believe it's the candidate who  
8 received the most votes of that party in that precinct.  
9 There are no other candidates of that party in that  
10 precinct because the other candidates in the other races  
11 are not appearing on the ballot representing the party.

12 Q Is it Secretary of State's office's position that in my  
13 precinct, for example, in 2008, that there were no  
14 Democrats on the ballot except for me?

15 A And, I'm sorry, you were running as PCO?

16 Q Yes.

17 A There were no other candidates appearing on the ballot as  
18 Democrats, yes.

19 Q My question was: Were there any other candidates on the  
20 ballot who were Democrats?

21 A That would be up to the candidate to tell you that. But in  
22 terms of how they're appearing on the ballot there were no  
23 other candidates appearing on the ballot representing the  
24 Democratic Party.

25 Q So, to the best of your knowledge, does the PCO election

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1 statute specify 10 percent of the votes of candidates  
2 appearing on the ballot as of the same party, or does it  
3 specify 10 percent of the votes of the candidates of the  
4 same party?

5 A I don't remember the specific language of the statute.

6 Q But I take it you have advised the various local election  
7 officials to ignore the 10 percent requirement?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Have you also advised them to ignore any nominations issued  
10 by the respective major parties?

11 A They've never been a recipient of those, so it's -- it's in  
12 terms of -- I guess I'd have to ask for clarification on  
13 the question.

14 Q Okay. Has there been any discussion about basing the  
15 10 percent, for example, on the votes obtained by the  
16 highest vote-getter who was nominated by the same party as  
17 the PCO candidate?

18 A I don't think we've had any discussions on that. I think  
19 that's been suggested by the parties, but not by our  
20 office.

21 Q Based on the training, to the best you understand it, will  
22 a candidate for party office who receives one vote, namely  
23 their own, be elected if there's no other candidate on the  
24 ballot?

25 A A candidate for -- I'm sorry -- for county office?

McDONALD (Catherine Blinn, 8/16/10)

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1 A I believe that they were. I believe they were.

2 Q And so -- and were the results of the polling, of the  
3 button push, displayed immediately after the language was  
4 reviewed or were they only displayed after all four?

5 A I don't think they were displayed to the focus group. I  
6 don't believe so, but I. . . .

7 Q In the first part of this document at page 10 or Bates  
8 No. 7146, the same disclaimer language and data appears  
9 except there are comments to the right. Do you see that?

10 A Um-hmm.

11 Q Do you know whether those comments are from the  
12 participants or from some other group?

13 A No, they were from the participants. They were -- I  
14 believe Stu had an assistant who was taking notes. And it  
15 may -- I can't remember if it was being recorded, audio  
16 recorded.

17 Q Do you know whether the discussion took place after each  
18 disclaimer was shown to the participants and before the  
19 next one was shown?

20 A That's my memory, yes.

21 Q So, is it the case that as we proceed serially through  
22 these at each step of the way, that 36 people have had more  
23 and more discussion amongst themselves about the disclaimer  
24 language and what it means?

25 A It's possible.



McDONALD (Catherine Blinn, 8/16/10)

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1 Q Do you recall if that's what happened?

2 A Whether there was more discussion as the examples  
3 proceeded?

4 Q By the time they got to the fourth example, had they  
5 discussed three other examples trying to get across the  
6 same point, or was this an isolated discussion?

7 A Each one was discussed in sequence, so, I mean, obviously  
8 you can tell from the comment on No. 15, that was more  
9 clear. That person's obviously comparing it to probably  
10 the previous one. And, you know, they were actually doing  
11 exactly what we wanted them to do, and that's to figure out  
12 which ones seemed more clear and which ones seemed less  
13 clear. We didn't. . . So they were providing the feedback  
14 that we wanted.

15 Q So the first time they -- or when they looked at the first  
16 disclaimer, it looks like roughly 36 percent of them found  
17 it confusing or somewhat confusing; is that right?

18 A Are you looking at No. 14?

19 Q Yes.

20 A Apparently, if you add the two to the 23, yeah.

21 Q And by the time they got or -- excuse me -- in connection  
22 with No. 17, something like 12 percent of them found it  
23 confusing or somewhat confusing or very confusing; is that  
24 right?

25 A And, I'm sorry, say that again.

McDONALD (Catherine Blinn, 8/16/10)

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1 Q After 17, that a total of about 12 percent found it  
2 confusing --

3 A Um-hmm.

4 Q -- somewhat confusing or very confusing?

5 A Yeah, it looks like it goes up again at No. 16, so it's not  
6 as though it was just a smooth slope downward, I guess, if  
7 that's what you're wanting.

8 Q In fact, it went down to almost no confusion at all with  
9 respect to 15, right?

10 A Um-hmm.

11 Q Is there any basis you have for -- well, strike that.

12 There has not been any study similar to this done of  
13 the exact language that was actually used, right?

14 A No, huh-uh.

15 Q On page 7148 or page 12, there is ballot language being  
16 discussed. What was the purpose of this part of the focus  
17 group?

18 A Again, we wanted to implement this in a way that would  
19 present the information in as a clear a manner as possible.  
20 And just as -- obviously, it was addressed in the Grange  
21 brief. It was addressed in oral argument. It was  
22 addressed in the Supreme Court opinion how the party  
23 preference information is presented to the voters for each  
24 candidate is very important. And so we wanted to -- we had  
25 ideas on what methods would be -- would tend to associate a

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1 candidate more or less with a party, and we wanted to quant  
2 -- not quantify that, but get some data back on this. And,  
3 actually, this focus group confirmed what we thought in  
4 terms of just placing the candidate and the name of the  
5 party -- John Smith, Republican Party, leads the voter  
6 to -- is more likely to lead the voter to think that that  
7 candidate represents the party and less so with these other  
8 options.

9 Q Were these --

10 A Much less so. Much less so.

11 Q Were these ballot language alternatives displayed and  
12 discussed one at a time?

13 A I believe they were.

14 Q And had the focus group participants been told what you  
15 were trying to convey with the language?

16 A No. I mean, I think the question that was asked to them  
17 is -- well, I'd have to check. I mean, we had conveyed to  
18 them that we were trying to implement a new primary, but we  
19 weren't trying to -- I'm looking for the exact language. I  
20 think it's in here somewhere.

21 "Which of these examples implies the strongest  
22 connection between the party and the candidate?" And  
23 example No. A, that just shows John Smith, Republican  
24 Party, showed the strongest connection between the party  
25 and candidate, which quite frankly confirmed exactly what

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1 the Supreme Court had said, or kind of, I should say, kind  
2 of what the Supreme Court had kind of predicted, and that  
3 Example D showed that the candidate thinks of himself as a  
4 Republican or Democrat. That's essentially a statement by  
5 the candidate, not a statement by the party.

6 So, again, it was really confirming what we already  
7 thought. And we essentially went with something very  
8 similar to D. I think that the only difference is that we  
9 capitalized the word "prefers."

10 Q Other than the parentheses around the "prefers" statement,  
11 is there any difference between C and D?

12 A I don't think so.

13 Q Isn't it correct that -- that ballot language C has almost  
14 as many people feeling that it indicates an endorsement by  
15 the party as A does?

16 A Well, C is different from what we implemented, though, but  
17 A has more people -- you mean, I'm sorry, just endorsed?

18 Q Right.

19 A I was adding endorsed and represented.

20 Q No. Endorsed in the case of A is 20 percent?

21 A Sample -- excuse me -- Example A has 20 percent of the  
22 focus group thinking that that example shows the  
23 candidate's endorsed by the party. Example C has 18  
24 percent, and that's part of why we didn't go with C, I  
25 think. The parentheses lend a -- kind of -- it kind of

McDONALD (Catherine Blinn, 8/16/10)

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1 downplays the significance of this information.

2 Q So with respect to the ballot language, at least in this  
3 group, looking at Example C without parentheses, something  
4 like 48 percent of the group thought that the candidate was  
5 either endorsed by the party or represented the party or  
6 was associated with the party; is that correct?

7 A That's what it looks like.

8 Q And what are the differences between C and what you put on  
9 the ballot?

10 A We put parentheses around the party preference information  
11 and we capitalized the word "prefers." So we did not go  
12 with Example C.

13 Q Do the comments on the right after C detail the entirety of  
14 the conversation that was had with the respondents to  
15 this --

16 A I don't --

17 Q Excuse me. Let me finish. -- with the respondents to the  
18 this survey between their evaluation of Exemplar C and  
19 Exemplar D?

20 A No, I don't think so.

21 Q Do they reflect any of the comments that were made by the  
22 moderator to the people with respect to D or C?

23 A No.

24 Q Did the moderators make any comments to the participants  
25 with respect to C or D?

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1 A The moderator asked questions to try and get people to  
2 talk, so they were usually open-ended questions like "What  
3 does this make you think?"

4 Q Is it possible that the change in response between C and D  
5 is due to something other than the mere addition of  
6 parentheses?

7 A I don't know.

8 Q Let me get my page reference. I'm sorry. At page 14  
9 there's another set of ballot language alternatives being  
10 evaluated?

11 A Um-hmm.

12 Q What were you testing there?

13 A Um-hmm. This is a little bit confusing. We were trying to  
14 decide how to express on the ballot a candidate who does  
15 not want to state a party preference and -- but we were  
16 asking the question in terms of the other candidate on the  
17 ballot who has expressed a party preference. And so while  
18 we were testing different ways of saying independent  
19 preference, has no party preference, prefers no party, and  
20 states no party preference, while those were the  
21 variations, the question that was posed to the focus group  
22 was not regarding those variations. It was actually  
23 regarding the Jane Doe candidate who prefers Republican  
24 Party. And, again, this question confirmed what we  
25 thought, that the phrase independent preference actually

WHITE (Catherine Blinn, 8/16/10)

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1 provide, the State indicates you will discuss the State's  
2 implementation of the Top Two Primary and related laws.  
3 Can you tell me what laws are related to the Top Two  
4 Primary that may be the subject of your testimony at trial?

5 A Well, this is actually an election system that was put in  
6 place. It's not just a primary. And so it changed  
7 candidate filing; it changed clearly how information is  
8 presented on the ballot; how -- it hasn't really changed  
9 how the primary votes are counted, but it's changed who  
10 advances from the primary to the general in terms of who is  
11 certified to advance, the qualifications for advancing from  
12 the primary to the general. So it has changed how primary  
13 elections are certified. It certainly has changed how  
14 general election ballots are presented to the voters. It  
15 has changed how PCO elections are presented to the voters.  
16 A number of, I mean, that's. . . . That's all I can think  
17 of right now.

18 Q Based on your experience with the House Government  
19 Operations Committee, is how the State regulates campaign  
20 finance part of the election system?

21 A It's not part of election administration.

22 Q You indicated that the Top Two Primary is part of an  
23 election system?

24 A Um-hmm.

25 Q My question is: Is campaign finance regulation part of





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## Spin Control

### WA Senate race Friday update

at 4:54 p.m. on August 20 Comments (0)

Tags 2010 elections Clint Didier Dino Rossi Patty Murray U.S. Senate race

As predicted yesterday, Clint Didier did not endorse Dino Rossi this morning at a Seattle press conference. He did, however, lay down conditions under which he would endorse Rossi.

Rossi, who declined to submit to what his campaign called "a list of demands", meanwhile, issued a challenge to Sen. Patty Murray to debate him six times before the primary, five in Washington state — with two in Seattle and the others scattered around to other cities — and one nationally televised debate. This might seem surprising to people who recall that Rossi declined to debate Didier and fellow Republican Paul Akers before the primary.

"Of course there will be debates," replied Alex Glass, deputy campaign manager for Murray. The number and timing will depend on the schedule of the Senate, which returns to session in September. But Murray isn't inclined to debate anywhere outside the state, Glass added. "This election is about the voters of Washington state."

Didier said he would endorse Rossi if the Republican nominee would make an unequivocal anti-abortion stand, make a no-new-taxes pledge and promise not to increase federal spending. They weren't a stretch for Rossi, Didier insisted, and they're part of the party platform.

The Rossi campaign responded that he would work to reduce spending, improve the economy and put Washington residents back to work. But, the campaign added: "Dino will continue to campaign on the things he believes, and will not submit to a list of demands made by anyone, even people with whom he agrees, in Washington State or Washington, D.C."

Before Didier's morning press conference, there was some speculation he would announce a write-in campaign for the seat. But state law prohibits a person who is eliminated in the primary from mounting a write-in campaign in the general. Didier said he'd received messages from people encouraging him not to quit, and he and supporters plan to start a new organization called Taking Back Washington, which he'd explain at some future date.

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## About this blog

Jim Camden is a veteran political reporter for The Spokesman-Review.



Jonathan Brunt covers Spokane City Hall for The Spokesman-Review.



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# THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

August 21, 2010

## Didier wants commitments from Rossi

Ex-candidate calls for stand on taxes, abortion

From Staff And Wire Reports  
The Spokesman-Review



Clint Didier announces Friday he's not ready to endorse fellow Republican Dino Rossi yet in the U.S. Senate race.

Unsuccessful Senate candidate Clint Didier set conditions Friday for endorsing fellow Republican Dino Rossi in the race against incumbent Democrat Patty Murray.

Rossi must take strong positions against abortion, taxes and government spending, said Didier, who finished third in Tuesday's primary.

The Rossi campaign, which on Friday challenged Murray to a series of debates, responded to Didier's statement by insisting the Republican nominee wouldn't submit to "demands made by anyone, even people with whom he agrees."

The Murray campaign said the two would debate, although the scheduling would depend on Murray's Senate schedule.

Didier told a Seattle news conference that he spoke with Rossi Thursday evening and that Rossi wanted to think about the requirements to take an unequivocal anti-abortion stand, make a no-new-taxes pledge and promise not to increase federal spending.

"I don't think these are much of a reach for Dino Rossi – in fact, they are part of our party's platform," Didier said. "The ball is in Rossi's court, and I'm anxious to begin campaigning for him."

In a statement after Didier's news conference, Rossi's campaign said he would work to reduce spending, improve the economy and "put Washingtonians back to work."

But, the campaign added: "Dino will continue to campaign on the things he believes, and will not submit to a list of demands made by anyone, even people with whom he agrees, in Washington state or Washington, D.C."

In an e-mail to the Associated Press, Didier said he didn't see the conditions as a list of demands. Instead, he believed people want to hear specifics from Rossi rather than generalities.

"He doesn't have a chance of winning right now. I'm trying to give him a chance," Didier said, who added he'd received many messages from supporters asking him to continue his fight.

But under Washington law, a candidate who loses in a primary cannot launch a write-in bid.

While Didier was in Seattle, Rossi was in Eastern Washington, starting the day in Moses Lake and stopping in Othello before an evening appearance in Spokane. His campaign challenged Murray to six televised debates, five in the state and one "nationally televised." Rossi had declined to debate Didier and fellow Republican Paul Akers before the primary.

"Of course there will be debates," Alex Glass, Murray's deputy campaign manager, said on Friday afternoon. The number and timing will depend in part on the Senate schedule, Glass said, but Murray wasn't inclined to debate outside the state.

"This election is about the voters in Washington state," Glass said.

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Aug, 23, 2010

## Newman to join Lytton in 40th House general election race

SAM TAYLOR / THE BELLINGHAM HERALD

Republican Mike Newman has eked out a victory for second place in the 40th House, Position 1 race to replace outgoing Rep. Dave Quall, D-Mount Vernon.

Newman, who took second place in the state's top-two primary with 17.4 percent of the vote, watched fellow Republican Dusty Gulleon and Democrat Tom Pasma inch closer to him since the Aug. 17 primary.

In the end, he was able to escape being overtaken and triggering an automatic recount, and now will join Democrat Kris Lytton in the general election. Lytton took first place with 26.3 percent of the vote.

Democrat Tom Pasma, the money frontrunner who had a large swath of traditionally Democratic support from labor and other groups, came in third with 15.7 percent of the vote. Republican Dusty Gulleon came in fourth with 15.6 percent.

Lytton has previously said she was pleased to move forward and appreciated her support across the district, which cover the lower half of Whatcom County, part of Skagit County and all of the San Juan Islands.

"We're excited," Newman said Tuesday, Aug. 24. "We're going to keep doing a lot of the same things we've been doing."

Newman said he made a strategic decision to focus on Skagit County in the primary, where he believes there are more conservative voters than in San Juan and Whatcom counties for the 40th district. Now, though, he said he'll start reaching out more to other counties, especially Whatcom.

But the Mount Vernon real estate agent may have an uphill battle in his bid to beat Lytton. The 40th seat being vacated by Quall has been in Democratic Party hands since 1986.

Though not a perfect reflection of what's to come in the general election, Democrats in the nine-way 40th primary took at least 54 percent of the vote.

Newman said he understood the issue, noting Democrats had about 10 points on Republicans in the race, but he said he felt confident moving forward.

"Once we start debating the issues more one on one, people will realize they'll have to make a change," Newman said. "More of the same of what's going on in Olympia is not going to have a good result."

Reach SAM TAYLOR at [sam.taylor@bellinghamherald.com](mailto:sam.taylor@bellinghamherald.com) or call 715-2263.



Office of the Secretary of State / Elections Division



**Voter Evaluation of Primary Ballot**  
Interactive Polling Workshop

April 10, 2008 | Tukwila WA

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## INTRODUCTION

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In August 2008, Washington voters will participate in their fourth new primary system in four years. Following a recent United States Supreme Court decision, the top two vote-getters in the Primary election, regardless of party affiliation, will advance to the general election in the fall.

The Elections Division of the Secretary of State's Office is charged with both developing the ballot format and explaining Washington's new "Top Two" Primary system to voters. Concerned about potential voter confusion, the Elections Division commissioned this interactive polling workshop designed to test alternate explanations and ballot formats. This report summarizes the results of this workshop.

Elway Research, of Seattle, assembled 36 voters recruited at random from voter lists in several legislative districts to participate in this two-hour interactive session held in Tukwila, WA, on April 10, 2008. The session combined polling and discussion. Using wireless handsets, participants anonymously responded to questions and materials. In addition, the moderator facilitated a discussion of each alternative ballot. Participants were encouraged to ask questions and make comments.

This report presents the questions in the order they were asked at the workshop and displays the charts as they were shown to the participants. The discussion was audio-taped. The text to the right of the charts consists of comments by participants, and, in some cases, noted differences between types of participants.

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April 10, 2008

2

ELWAY RESEARCH, INC.

## KEY FINDINGS

- ♦ Most participants (20/36) believed the purpose of a primary election was to designate the party's nominees for the general election.
- ♦ 2 In 3 participants believed the purpose of a primary election in a non-partisan election was to "narrow the field" of candidates.
- ♦ Almost half of participants (16/36) believed the purpose of a Presidential preference primary was to "indicate voter preference for candidates."
- ♦ Almost 6 In 10 participants incorrectly believed the next primary election was in September 2008.
- ♦ Half correctly identified the new primary's name: the "Top Two."
- ♦ 2 In 3 participants said they believed that the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes would proceed to the General Election ballot, regardless of party.
- ♦ Participants were split over which type of primary they preferred: Blanket or Top Two.
- ♦ 7 In 10 said they found the proposed postcard about the primary either "very clear," "clear," or "somewhat clear."
- ♦ 7 In 10 believed Disclaimer B was the most clear.
  - Disclaimer B: "Each candidate for partisan office may list a political party that he or she prefers. A

April 10, 2008

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candidate's preference is not an indication of endorsement by the party."

- ♦ Most believed that the Partisan Ballot Arrangement A implied the strongest connection between the party and the candidate.

**Partisan Ballot Arrangement A**  
**24<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, Pos 1**  
**JOHN SMITH**  
 Republican Party  
**JANE DOE**  
 Democratic Party

- ♦ 6 in 10 believed that Independent Arrangement A suggested the strongest connection between the party and the candidate.

**Independent Ballot Arrangement A**  
**24<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, Pos 1**  
**JANE DOE**  
 (Prefers Republican Party)  
**JOHN SMITH**  
 (Independent Preference)

- ♦ Fewer than half (16/36) said the sample ballot instructions were "very clear."
- ♦ Almost half (17/36) said the Voters Pamphlet would be the most useful way to provide information about the primary.
- ♦ 8 of 10 participants said the TV copy was "very clear."
- ♦ Fewer than half (16/36) said the radio copy was "very clear."

WSRP v. Reed  
 D-I\_07140

April 10, 2008

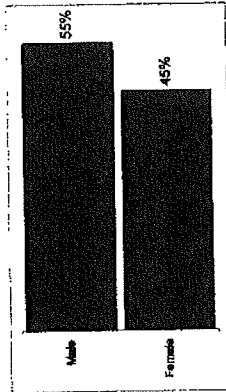
4

ELIURY RESEARCH, INC.

Office of the Secretary of State

**PARTICIPANT PROFILE****2. What is your gender**

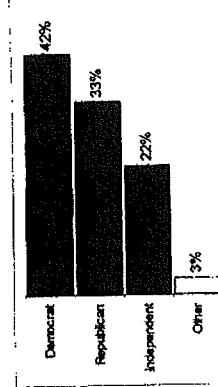
1. Male
2. Female

**3. Where is your home?**

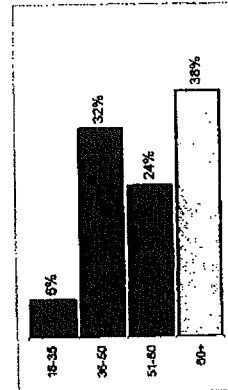
1. Auburn
2. Bellevue
3. Federal Way
4. Kent
5. Renton
6. SeaTac
7. Seattle
8. Tukwila
9. Other

**4. If you had to register by party in order to vote, would you register as..**

1. Democrat
2. Republican
3. Independent
4. Other

**5. What is your age?**

1. 18-35
2. 36-50
3. 51-60
4. 60+



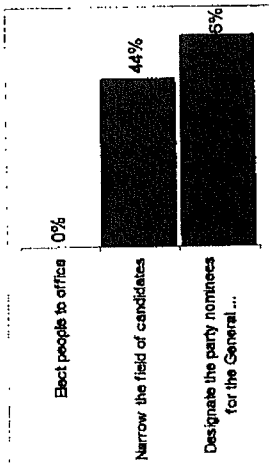
April 10, 2008

Office of the Secretary of State

Voter Evaluation of Primary Ballot Language

**KNOWLEDGE OF PRIMARIES****6. The purpose of a Primary Election is to:**

1. Elect people to office
2. Narrow the field of candidates
3. Designate the party nominees for the General Election

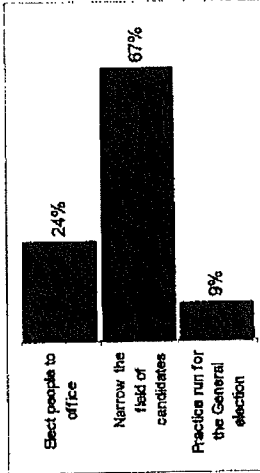


- Men were significantly more likely to answer "narrow the field" than women.

- All but one Republican chose "narrow the field."
- 84% of people over 60 chose "narrow the field."

**7. The purpose of a Primary in a non-partisan election is to:**

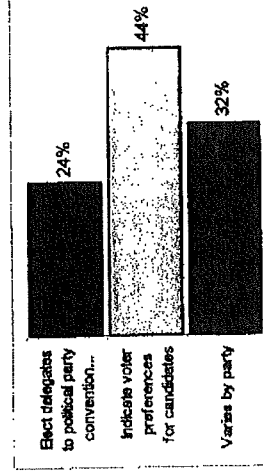
1. Elect people to office
2. Narrow the field of candidates
3. Practice run for the General election



- Women were most likely to answer "varies by party."

**8. The purpose of a Presidential preference Primary is to:**

1. Elect delegates to political party conventions
2. Indicate voter preferences for candidates
3. Varies by party



April 10, 2008

6

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## Voter Evaluation of Primary Ballot Language

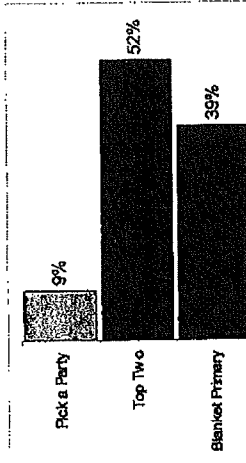
Office of the Secretary of State

**9. Washington will have a new form of Primary this year. When is the Primary election?**

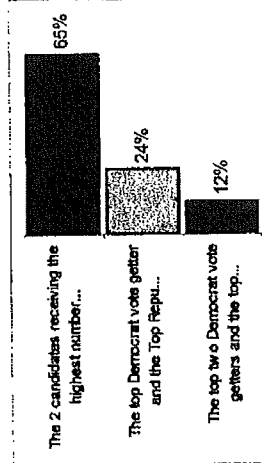
1. July
2. August
3. September

**10. Our new Primary is called:**

1. Pick a Party
2. Top Two
3. Blanket Primary

**11. Under this new Primary, which of the following is true:**

1. The 2 candidates receiving the highest number of votes will proceed to the General election ballot, regardless of party
2. The top Democrat vote getter and the top Republican vote getter will proceed to the General Election ballot
3. The top two Democrat vote getters and the top two Republican vote getters will proceed to the General Election ballot



April 10, 2008

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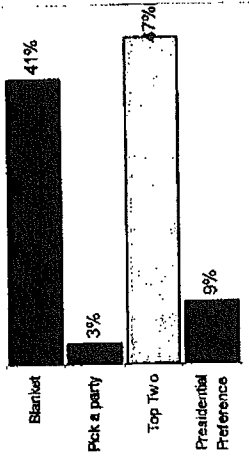
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## Office of the Secretary of State

## Voter Evaluation of Primary Ballot Language

**12. Washington will have had 4 types of Primary Election in the last four years. Which one do you prefer:**

1. Blanket
2. Pick a party
3. Top Two
4. Presidential preference Primary



**Support for the "Top Two" primary process:**  
 "Simplifies the number of candidates."

"This is democracy."

"I think the reason I like it best is sometimes I like to pick the person not the party, although there might be a party that I have a little more inclination to support than another. I hate to be locked in to its representative every time."

**More support for the "Top Two":**

"That's the way the constitution was originally developed, pick the best person."

"This system, the top-two system doesn't leave it up to the party to decide who's going to be running. It leaves it up to the people to decide whether they're Republicans, or Democrats, or independents. If you have a number of independents in a, let's say a Republican district and you're dissatisfied with the incumbent and there's another Republican running and there are Democrats, and greens, and so forth, libertarians.... You decide that a Republican is probably going to win then you could probably pick the Republican most closely aligned to what your position is rather than the most popular or the incumbent. You have a way of weighing your vote, where as before, you didn't have. The activists of either the Republican or Democratic Party would be making that choice. Now it opens it up to the people to make that choice."

**Concerns about the "Top Two":**

"Can I ask a question pertaining to the top-two? Is the only way you can get on the general election is by through the primary or can, like a third-party, go through a caucus system and insist on being named on the general election?"

"You have a one-party slant if you have to, the top two are both Democrats, and the top two are both Republicans, you're going to get that slant. You won't really have opposition; you won't have somebody who is showing what the other side of the coin looks like."

"I personally think that it's going to be more exclusionary because the only way to get an incumbent out is to only have one other candidate in a party. You do not want to have multiple candidates because you're not going to hit the 50% or the number. To me it's going to make it less elective."

**Comments in support of a "Blanket" primary:**

"With the blanket you're not restricted, you can vote either way."

"In a republic, which we are, the top two, by default, benefits whoever is in power because they're the most popular, they have the most name recognition, and it will by default, exclude the party that is out of power."

April 10, 2008

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Office of the Secretary of State

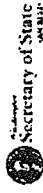
Voter Evaluation of Primary Ballot Language

**POSTCARD CLARITY**

13. This is an example of a post card that you might receive, telling voters about the new Primary. Do you find it...

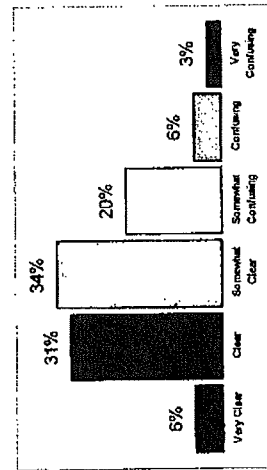
**IMPORTANT 2008  
Primary REMINDER**  
Washington State has a new primary!  
You now can vote for any candidate on the ballot,  
regardless of party preference.  
The top two vote getters in the August Primary will  
advance to the November General Election ballot.  
Don't forget to vote  
Tuesday, August 19

Washington State Office of the Secretary of State  
In order to be eligible to vote in the primary, you must be a  
registered voter in Washington State. A candidate for  
office must appear on the ballot. Candidates for  
office must appear on the ballot. Candidates for  
office must appear on the ballot.



Secretary of State  
JAN 2008

- 1- Very Clear  
2- Clear  
3- somewhat clear  
4- somewhat Confusing  
5- confusing  
6- Very Confusing

**Comments and Suggestions:**

"Show the hours, the day and hours the polls will be open."

"If this is going to be an all-mail-in, they probably ought to mention that."

"I think it needs a website in case people have a question then they go to a website."

April 10, 2008

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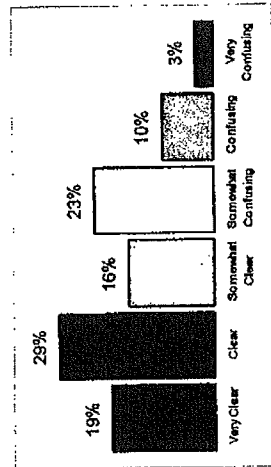
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WSRP v. Reed  
D-I\_07145



**DISCLAIMER LANGUAGE**

14. Washington law allows a candidate for partisan office to state on the ballot the political party that he or she prefers. A candidate's statement of party preference does not imply that the candidate is nominated by, endorsed by, or a member of that party.

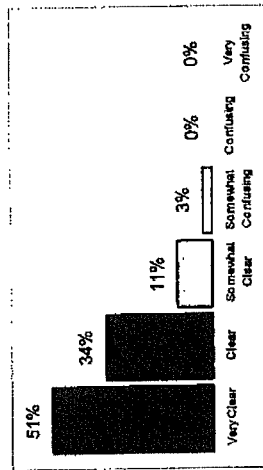


"I wonder if the word, reveal, shouldn't be in there maybe?"

"It's got unnecessary stuff in it, it should just say, the candidates party preference may or may not be true."

"What about, represent instead of prefer. That's not right, they may not represent it if they're not a member of the party."

15. Each candidate for partisan office may list a political party that he or she prefers. A candidate's preference is not an indication of endorsement by the party



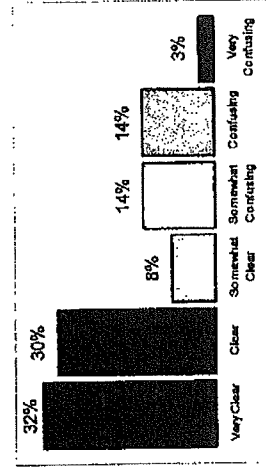
"That was more clear."

"A lot less wordy."

"Brief is good."

"Less adjectives."

16. In partisan races the political party listed with a candidate is the political party that the candidate prefers. The party may or may not prefer or approve of that candidate



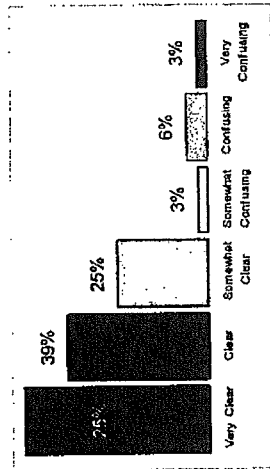
"This one required too much thought."

"The party may or may not approve of that guy, what does that mean?"

## Voter Evaluation of Primary Ballot Language

Office of the Secretary of State

17. State law allows candidates for partisan office to self-select the political party he or she prefers. A party preference does not imply that the candidate is nominated by, endorsed by, or a member of that party.



What makes "B" the favorite?

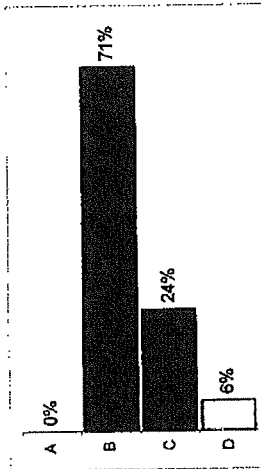
"It's clear."

"Simple and clear."

"Short."

"Conveys the information?"

18. Which of these statements do you think is the most clear, understandable and useful to voters?



April 10, 2008

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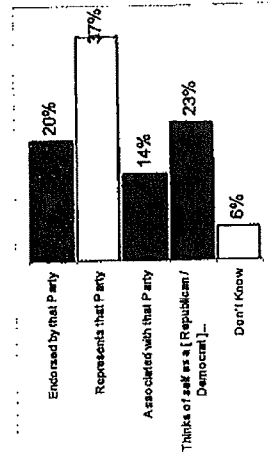
Office of the Secretary of State

**BALLOT LANGUAGE, PARTISANS****A.****24<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, Pos. 1****JOHN SMITH**

Republican Party

**JANE DOE**

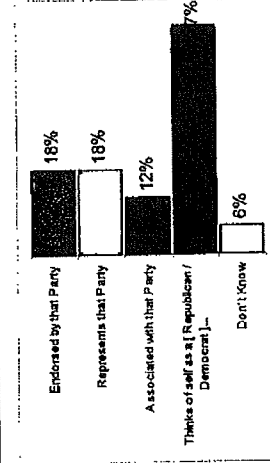
Democratic Party

**B.****24<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, Pos. 1****JOHN SMITH**

Republican Party preference

**JANE DOE**

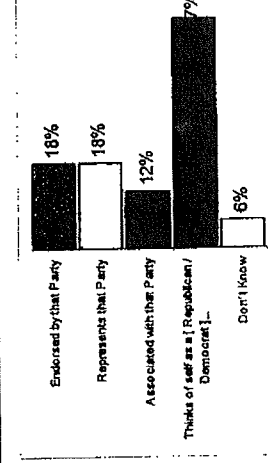
Democratic Party preference

**C.****24<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, Pos. 1****JOHN SMITH**

prefers Republican Party

**JANE DOE**

prefers Democratic Party



"They really have no idea if they do or do not have a formal connection because they might."

"They needed to have preferred and endorsed."

"I voted; 'don't know', on every one of these. To me there's got to be something out there that says, endorsed by the Democratic Party."

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Office of the Secretary of State

Voter Evaluation of Primary Ballot Language

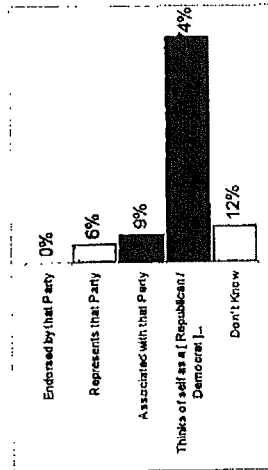
**D.****24<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, Pos. 1****JOHN SMITH**

(prefers Republican Party)

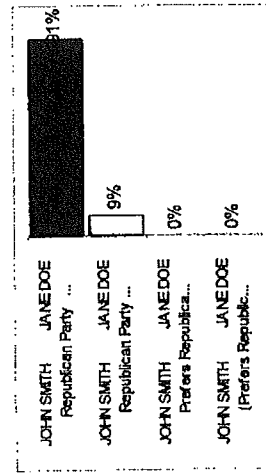
**JANE DOE**

(prefers Democratic Party)

- Democrats were significantly more likely than Republicans to believe that Arrangement D suggested the candidate "think of self."
- "I don't see what's different."
- "Basically, there's no endorsement going on, we don't know who's endorsed and who isn't?"



**24. Which of these Examples implies the strongest connection between the Party and the Candidate?**  
[Handout 2]



"We're used to seeing it that way."

"There is no qualifying word."

"That's what we've seen in the past."

"It's just stated as a fact."

"The only thing stronger would be paid for by the Democratic party."

April 10, 2008

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Office of the Secretary of State

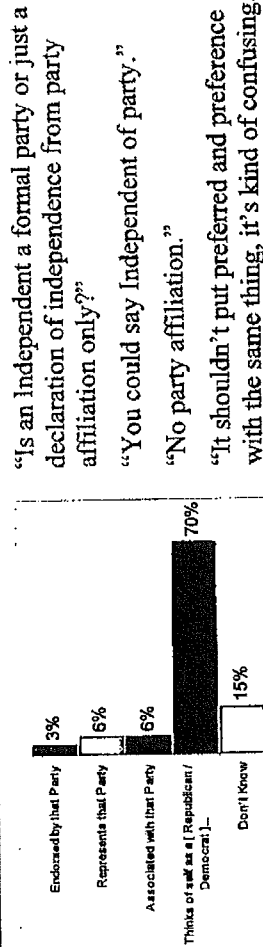
Voter Evaluation of Primary Ballot Language

**BALLOT LANGUAGE, INDEPENDENTS****1.****24<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, Pos. 1****JANE DOE**

(prefers Republican Party)

**JOHN SMITH**

(Independent Preference)



"Is an independent a formal party or just a declaration of independence from party affiliation only?"

"You could say Independent of party."

"No party affiliation."

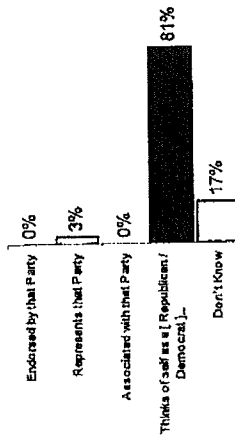
"It shouldn't put preferred and preference with the same thing, it's kind of confusing."

**2.****24<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, Pos. 1****JANE DOE**

(prefers Republican Party)

**JOHN SMITH**

(has no party preference)



"Has no formal connection but is for sale."

"Prefers no party sounds like you... doesn't like either the Democrats or the Republicans."

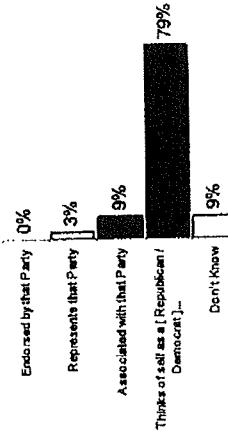
"Or if they could have left it blank; they didn't state a party preference where the other one actually preferred no party."

**3.****24<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, Pos. 1****JANE DOE**

(prefers Republican Party)

**JOHN SMITH**

(prefers no party)



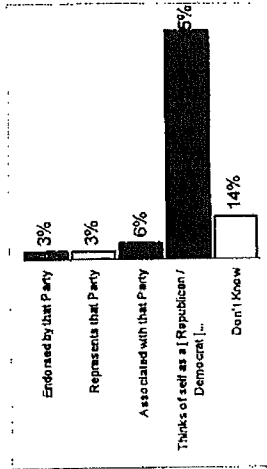
April 10, 2008

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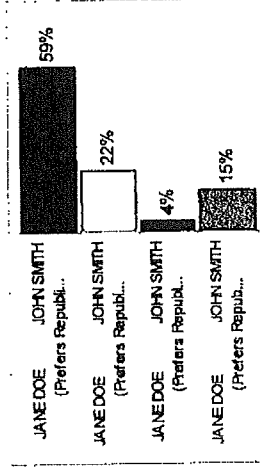
ELWAY RESEARCH, INC.

Office of the Secretary of State

- 4.**  
**24<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, Pos. 1**  
**JANE DOE**  
 (prefers Republican Party)  
**JOHN SMITH**  
 (states no party preference)



- 29. Which of these Examples implies the strongest connection between the Party and the Candidate?**



"I'm going for parallel structure; I think that's very confusing."

"It should just be one word, Republican, Democrat, and no affiliation."

"At the very top of the ballot say none of this really means anything. That's just what people are saying."

"You can bet before the election the Democrat and Republican parties will have a lot of ads out saying, who their nominee is. This is done in a vacuum now but if we were real campaign the Republican and Democrat and green party would all be running as...to say they are the nominee of the Republican or Democrat..."

April 10, 2008


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ELIURY RESEARCH, INC.


**BALLOT INSTRUCTIONS**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL VOTERS**

**1** Use a dark pen to fill in the oval next to your choice. Fill in the oval completely.



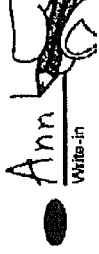
**2** **ABSENTEE VOTERS:**  
If you make an error in voting, draw an "X" through the error and fill in the correct oval.



**POLL VOTERS:**  
If you make an error in voting, ask a poll worker for a new ballot.

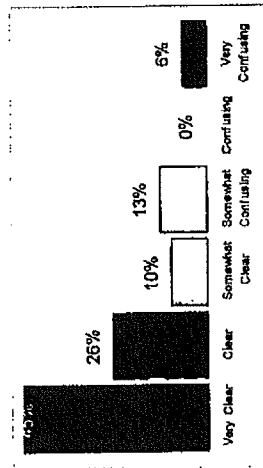
**OPTIONAL WRITE-IN VOTE:**  
To vote for a WRITE-IN candidate, write the name and darken the oval.

Ann Write-in



**Do not sign or make any additional marks on the ballot.**

30. Respondents were shown the following ballot instructions and asked to rate its clarity on a six-point scale, where 1=Very Clear and 6=Very Unclear.



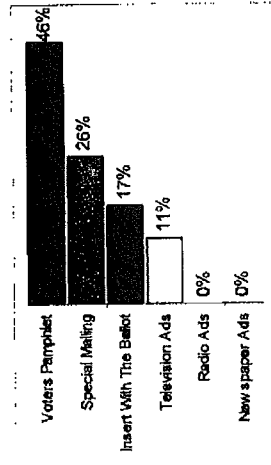
"I think it needs to say mail-in and absentee voters only. I might go to the polls and say, oh look, I can correct my mistakes. I won't read down that far, I'll already see the X and I will've already X-ed one out and keep going."

"Optimal write-in vote, I would probably change; write the name and darken the oval. Flip them because isn't that what's happening, the town's people forget and actually mark the oval?"

**MOST USEFUL INFORMATION SOURCE**

**31. Which of the following would you find most useful as a way to provide you with information about the primary.**

1. Voters Pamphlet
2. Special Mailing
3. Insert In The Mailing With The Ballot
4. Television Ads
5. Radio Ads
6. Newspaper Ads



“Something that you could take some time and read.”

“I like number “3” because the information is there with the most important thing, the ballot.”

“Do number “1” and use “3” as a reminder.”

“Those people who vote at the polls they would have to read it there but if they already knew about it then it would just be a reminder.”

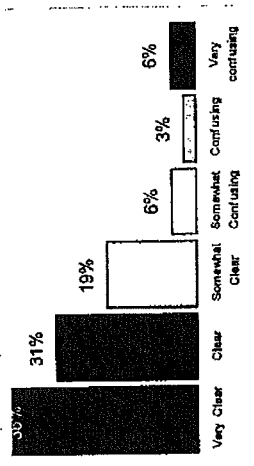


Office of the Secretary of State

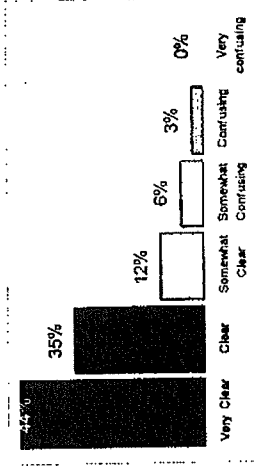
Voter Evaluation of Primary Ballot Language

**ADVERTISING COPY****TV Ad Copy**

Washington has a new primary.  
 August 19 you can vote for the person,  
 not the party.  
 New laws mean you won't have to pick  
 a political party and you can choose  
 any candidate on the ballot -  
 regardless of party preference.  
 Occasionally two candidates with  
 similar political party preferences may  
 advance to the general election.  
 Remember: State law allows  
 candidates to express their political  
 party preferences. Preferences do not  
 imply endorsement or nomination by a  
 political party

**RADIO COPY**

Washington has a new primary.  
 August 19 you can vote for the person,  
 not the party.  
 New laws mean you won't have to pick  
 a political party and you can choose  
 any candidate on the ballot -  
 regardless of party preference.

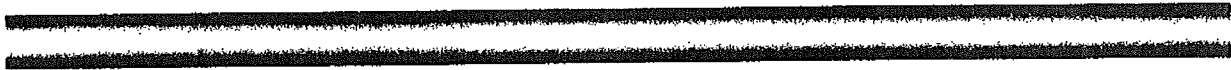


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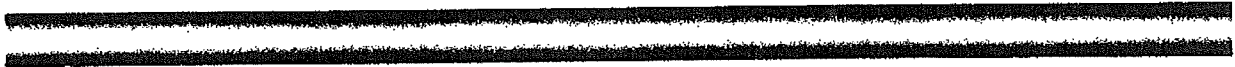


Office of the Secretary of State

**Elections Division**

**VOTER EVALUATION OF  
PRIMARY BALLOT LANGUAGE**

April 2008



**RESPONSE FREQUENCIES**

This repost presents the raw data from the interactive polling session. The results are displayed as they were during the session.

***ER***  
***ELWAY RESEARCH, INC.***

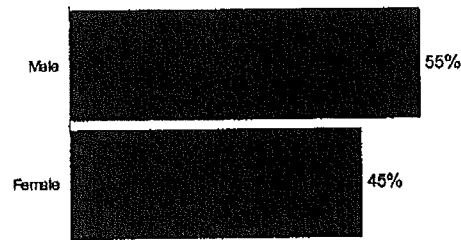
**WSRP v. Reed  
D-I\_07155**

Office of the Secretary of State

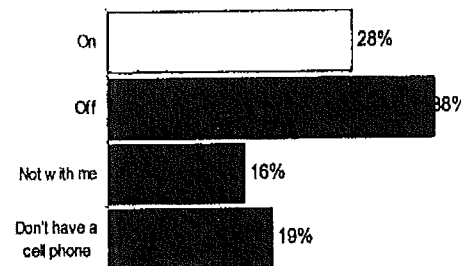
Voter Evaluation of Primary Ballot Language

**PARTICIPANT PROFILE****2. What is your gender**

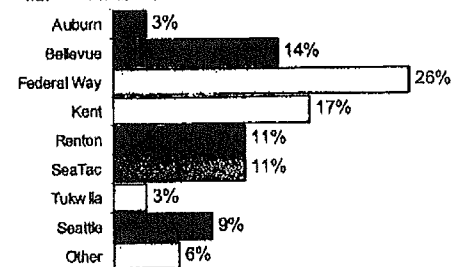
1. Male
2. Female

**3. Is your cell phone:**

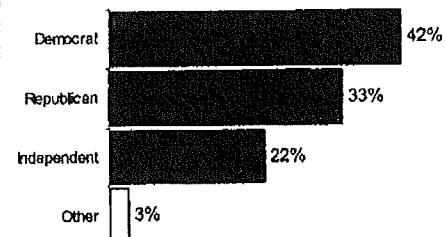
1. On
2. Off
3. Not with me
4. Don't have a cell phone

**4. Where is your home?**

1. Auburn
2. Bellevue
3. Federal Way
4. Kent
5. Renton
6. SeaTac
7. Seattle
8. Tukwila
9. Other

**5. If you had to register by party in order to vote, would you register as..**

1. Democrat
2. Republican
3. Independent
4. Other



April 10, 2008

1

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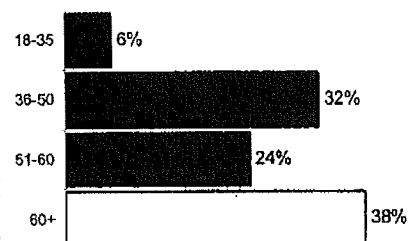
WSRP v. Reed  
D-I\_07156

## Office of the Secretary of State

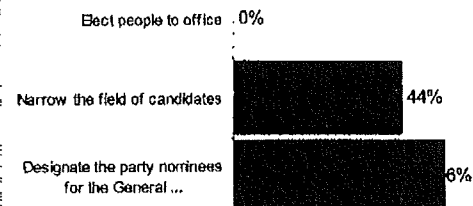
## Voter Evaluation of Primary Ballot Language

**6. What is your age?**

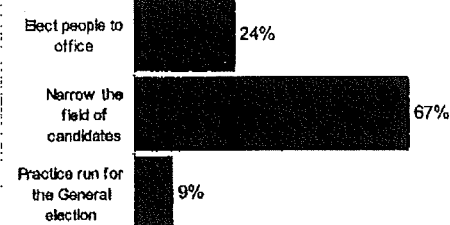
1. 18-35
2. 36-50
3. 51-60
4. 60+

**KNOWLEDGE OF PRIMARIES****7. The purpose of a Primary Election is to:**

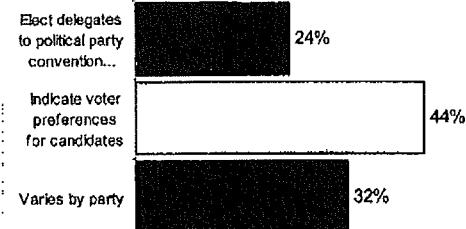
1. Elect people to office
2. Narrow the field of candidates
3. Designate the party nominees for the General Election

**8. The purpose of a Primary in a non-partisan election is to:**

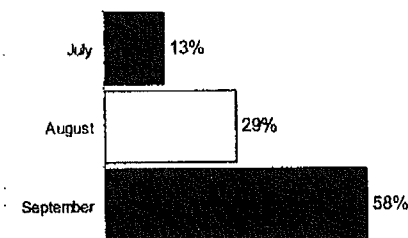
1. Elect people to office
2. Narrow the field of candidates
3. Practice run for the General election

**9. The purpose of a Presidential preference Primary is to:**

1. Elect delegates to political party conventions
2. Indicate voter preferences for candidates
3. Varies by party

**10. Washington will have a new form of Primary this year. When is the Primary election?**

1. July
2. August
3. September

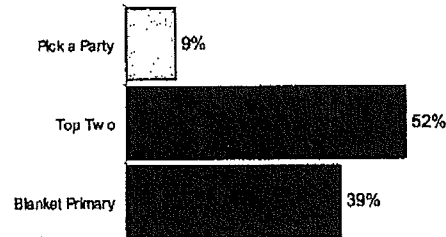


## Office of the Secretary of State

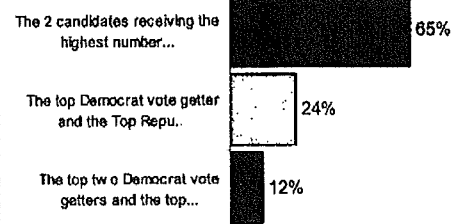
## Voter Evaluation of Primary Ballot Language

**11. Our new Primary is called:**

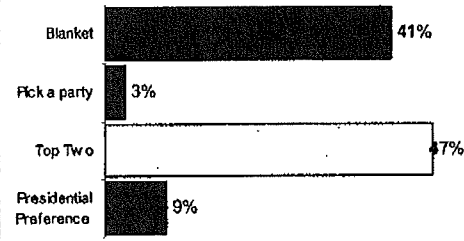
1. Pick a Party
2. Top Two
3. Blanket Primary

**12. Under this new Primary, which of the following is true:**

1. The 2 candidates receiving the highest number of votes will proceed to the General election ballot, regardless of party
2. The top Democrat vote getter and the top Republican vote getter will proceed to the General Election ballot
3. The top two Democrat vote getters and the top two Republican vote getters will proceed to the General Election ballot

**13. Washington will have had 4 types of Primary Election in the last four years. Which one do you prefer:**

1. Blanket
2. Pick a party
3. Top Two
4. Presidential preference Primary


**14. This is an example of a post card that you might receive, telling voters about the new Primary. Do you find it...**

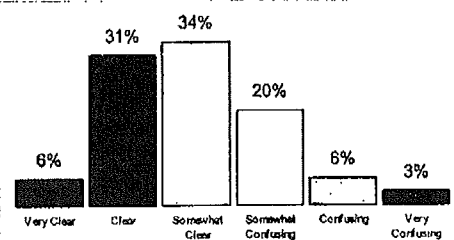
**IMPORTANT 2008  
Primary REMINDER**

Washington State has a new primary!  
You now can vote for any candidate on the ballot,  
regardless of party preference.  
The top two vote getters in the August Primary will  
advance to the November General Election ballot.

**Don't forget to vote  
Tuesday, August 19**

Washington now allows a candidate for political office to state on the ballot the political party that he or she prefers. A candidate's statement of party preference does not imply that the candidate is sponsored by, endorsed by, or a member of that party.

 **Secretary of State**  
SUZUKI



April 10, 2008

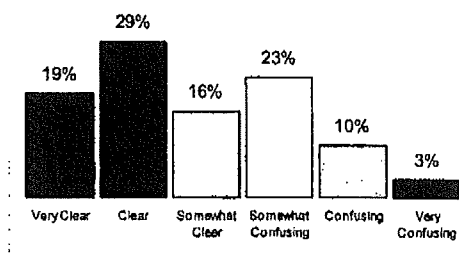
3

ELWAY RESEARCH, INC.

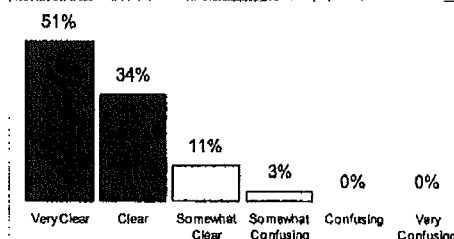
**WSRP v. Reed  
D-I\_07158**

**DISCLAIMER LANGUAGE**

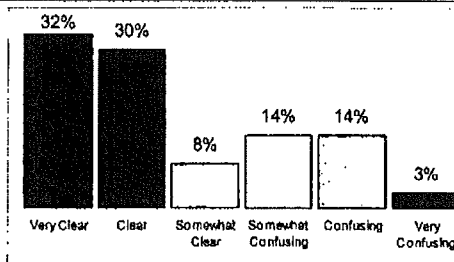
- 15. Washington law allows a candidate for partisan office to state on the ballot the political party that he or she prefers. A candidate's statement of party preference does not imply that the candidate is nominated by, endorsed by, or a member of that party.**



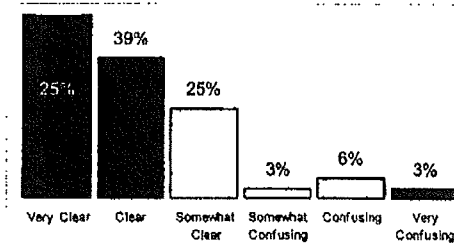
- 16. Each candidate for partisan office may list a political party that he or she prefers. A candidate's preference is not an indication of endorsement by the party**



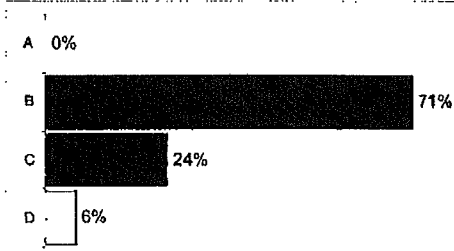
- 17. In partisan races the political party listed with a candidate is the political party that the candidate prefers. The party may or may not prefer or approve of that candidate**



- 18. State law allows candidates for partisan office to self-select the political party he or she prefers. A party preference does not imply that the candidate is nominated by, endorsed by, or a member of that party.**



- 19. Which of these statements do you think is the most clear, understandable and useful to voters?**



Office of the Secretary of State

Voter Evaluation of Primary Ballot Language

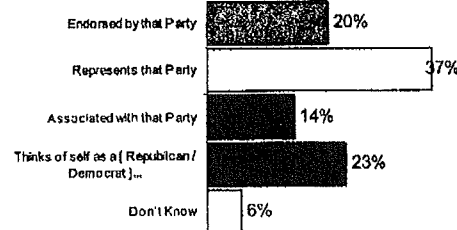
**BALLOT LANGUAGE, PARTISANS****A.****24<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, Pos. 1**

JOHN SMITH

Republican Party

JANE DOE

Democratic Party

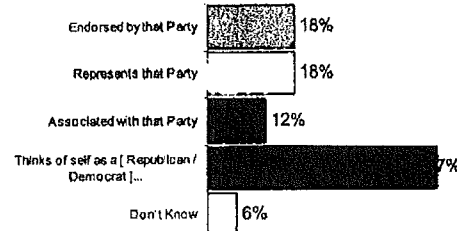
**B.****24<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, Pos. 1**

JOHN SMITH

Republican Party preference

JANE DOE

Democratic Party preference

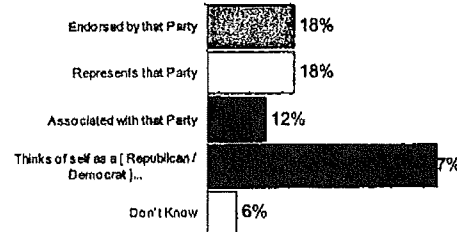
**C.****24<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, Pos. 1**

JOHN SMITH

prefers Republican Party

JANE DOE

prefers Democratic Party

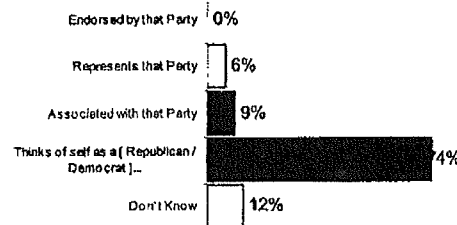
**D.****24<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, Pos. 1**

JOHN SMITH

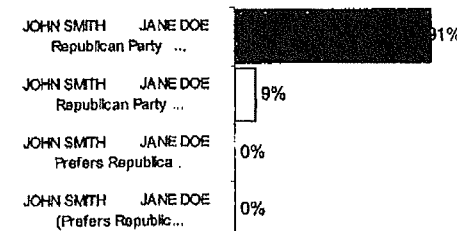
(prefers Republican Party)

JANE DOE

(prefers Democratic Party)



**24. Which of these Examples implies the strongest connection between the Party and the Candidate? [Handout 2]**



April 10, 2008

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WSRP v. Reed  
D-I\_07160



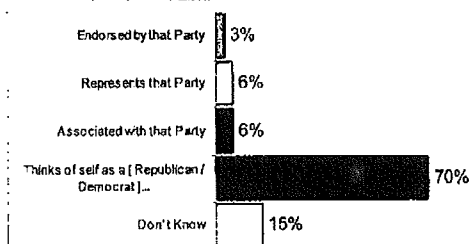
**BALLOT LANGUAGE, INDEPENDENTS****1.****24<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, Pos. 1**

JANE DOE

(prefers Republican Party)

JOHN SMITH

(Independent Preference)

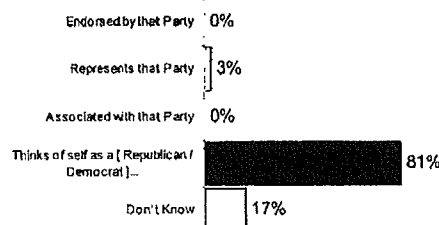
**2.****24<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, Pos. 1**

JANE DOE

(prefers Republican Party)

JOHN SMITH

(has no party preference)

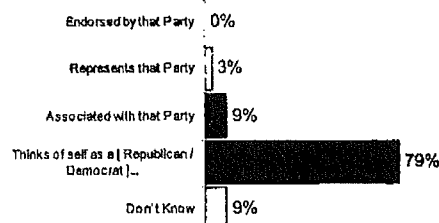
**3.****24<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, Pos. 1**

JANE DOE

(prefers Republican Party)

JOHN SMITH

(prefers no party)

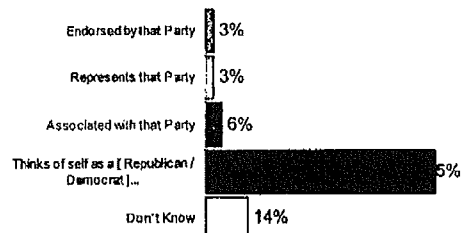
**4.****24<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, Pos. 1**

JANE DOE

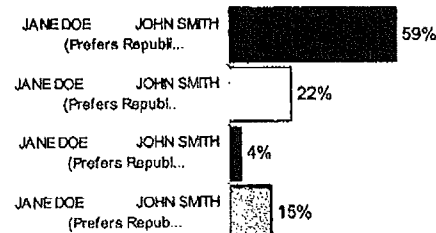
(prefers Republican Party)

JOHN SMITH

(states no party preference)



**29. Which of these Examples implies the strongest connection between the Party and the Candidate?**



**BALLOT INSTRUCTIONS****INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL VOTERS**

- 1** Use a dark pen to fill in the oval next to your choice. Fill in the oval completely

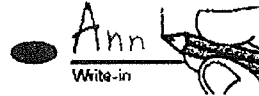


- 2 ABSENTEE VOTERS:**  
If you make an error in voting, draw an "X" through the error and fill in the correct oval



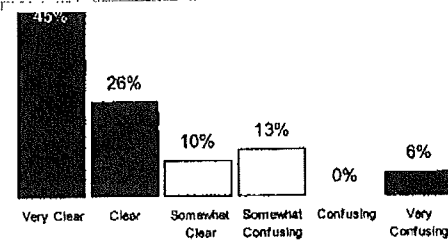
**POLL VOTERS:**  
If you make an error in voting, ask a poll worker for a new ballot.

- OPTIONAL WRITE-IN VOTE:**  
To vote for a WRITE-IN candidate, write the name and darken the oval



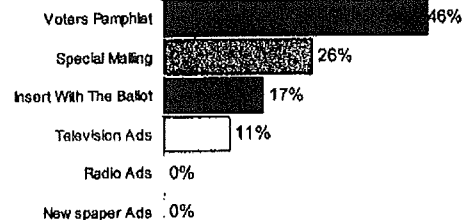
- Do not sign or make any additional marks on the ballot.**

30.

**MOST USEFUL INFORMATION SOURCE**

**31. Which of the following would you find most useful as a way to provide you with information about the primary.**

1. Voters Pamphlet
2. Special Mailing
3. Insert In The Mailing With The Ballot
4. Television Ads
5. Radio Ads
6. Newspaper Ads

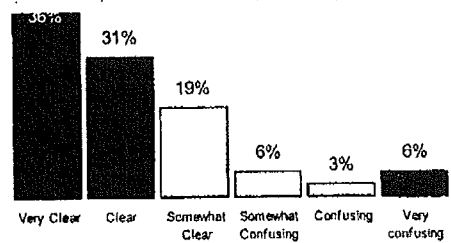


Office of the Secretary of State

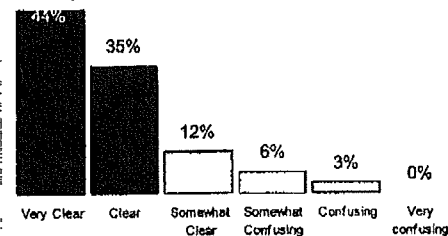
Voter Evaluation of Primary Ballot Language

**ADVERTISING COPY****TV Ad Copy**

Washington has a new primary.  
 August 19 you can vote for the person,  
 not the party.  
 New laws mean you won't have to pick  
 a political party and you can choose  
 any candidate on the ballot –  
 regardless of party preference.  
 Occasionally two candidates with  
 similar political party preferences may  
 advance to the general election.  
 Remember: State law allows  
 candidates to express their political  
 party preferences. Preferences do not  
 imply endorsement or nomination by a  
 political party

**32. RADIO COPY**

Washington has a new primary.  
 August 19 you can vote for the person,  
 not the party.  
 New laws mean you won't have to pick  
 a political party and you can choose  
 any candidate on the ballot –  
 regardless of party preference.



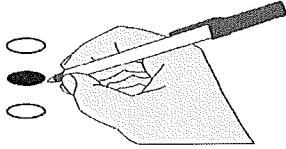
April 10, 2008

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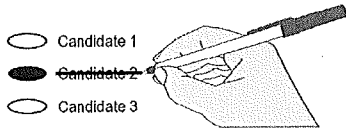
ELWAY RESEARCH, INC.

WSRP v. Reed  
 D-I\_07163



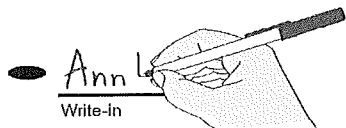
**August 17, 2010**Official Primary Election Ballot  
King County, Washington**Instructions****Making selections**

Use a dark pen to completely fill in the oval next to your choice.

**How to correct a mistake**

To make a correction, draw a line through the entire measure response or candidate's name.

You then have the option of making another choice.

**Optional write-in**

To add a candidate, fill in the oval next to the write-in line and print the name on the write-in line.

**!** Do not cut, tear or damage the ballot.

**READ:** Each candidate for partisan office may state a political party that he or she prefers. A candidate's preference does not imply that the candidate is nominated or endorsed by the party, or that the party approves of or associates with that candidate.

**Federal****United States Senator**  
partisan office  
vote for one

- ☐ Norma D. Gruber  
(Prefers Republican Party)
- ☐ Mohammad H. Said  
(Prefers Centrist Party)
- ☐ Goodspaceguy  
(Prefers Democratic Party)
- ☐ Mike The Mover  
(Prefers Democratic Party)
- ☐ Paul Akers  
(Prefers Republican Party)
- ☐ Mike Latimer  
(Prefers Republican Party)
- ☐ James (Skip) Mercer  
(States No Party Preference)
- ☐ Clint Didier  
(Prefers Republican Party)
- ☐ Schalk Leonard  
(States No Party Preference)
- ☐ Patty Murray  
(Prefers Democratic Party)
- ☐ Bob Burr  
(Prefers Democratic Party)
- ☐ William Edward Chovil  
(Prefers Republican Party)
- ☐ Dino Rossi  
(Prefers Republican Party)
- ☐ Charles Allen  
(Prefers Democratic Party)
- ☐ Will Baker  
(Prefers Reform Party)
- ☐ Write-in

**United States Representative**  
**Congressional District No. 1**  
partisan office  
vote for one

- ☐ Matthew Burke  
(Prefers Republican Party)
- ☐ James Watkins  
(Prefers Republican Party)
- ☐ David D. Schirle  
(Prefers Independent Party)
- ☐ Jay Inslee  
(Prefers Democratic Party)
- ☐ Write-in

**State of Washington****Legislative District No. 32****State Senator**  
partisan office  
vote for one

- ☐ Patty Butler  
(Prefers Democratic Party)
- ☐ Maralyn Chase  
(Prefers Democratic Party)
- ☐ David Baker  
(Prefers Republican Party)
- ☐ Write-in

**Representative Position No. 1**  
partisan office  
vote for one

- ☐ Art Coday  
(Prefers Republican Party)
- ☐ Cindy Ryu  
(Prefers Democratic Party)
- ☐ Doris Fujioka McConnell  
(Prefers Democratic Party)
- ☐ Write-in

**Representative Position No. 2**  
partisan office  
vote for one

- ☐ Stan Lippmann  
(Prefers Democratic Party)
- ☐ Gary (G) Gagliardi  
(Prefers Republican Party)
- ☐ Ruth Kagi  
(Prefers Democratic Party)
- ☐ Write-in

**King County****Prosecuting Attorney**  
partisan office  
vote for one

- ☐ Dan Satterberg  
(Prefers Republican Party)
- ☐ Write-in


**State Supreme Court****Justice Position No. 1**  
nonpartisan office  
vote for one

- ☐ Stan Rumbaugh
- ☐ Jim Johnson
- ☐ Write-in

**Justice Position No. 5**  
nonpartisan office  
vote for one

- ☐ Barbara Madsen
- ☐ Write-in

Continued on other side

State Supreme Court	Election of Political Precinct Committee Officer
<b>Justice Position No. 6</b> nonpartisan office vote for one <input type="radio"/> Bryan Chushcoff <input type="radio"/> Charlie Wiggins <input type="radio"/> Richard B. Sanders <input type="radio"/> Write-in	Precinct Committee Officer is a position in each major political party. For this office only: If you consider yourself a Democrat or Republican, you may vote for a candidate of that party. For a write-in candidate, include party. vote for one
<b>Court of Appeals</b> Div. No. 1, Dist. No. 1	<input type="radio"/> Corey Murata Democratic Party Candidate <input type="radio"/> Write-in
<b>Judge Position No. 1</b> nonpartisan office vote for one <input type="radio"/> C. Kenneth Grosse <input type="radio"/> Write-in	<div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <b>Return your ballot.</b>  <b>vote by mail</b> </div>
<b>Judge Position No. 2</b> unexpired 1-year term nonpartisan office vote for one <input type="radio"/> Michael Spearman <input type="radio"/> Write-in	

Vote both sides of ballot



PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION  
711 CAPITOL WAY RM 206  
PO BOX 40908  
OLYMPIA WA 98504-0908  
(360) 753-1111 or 1-877-604-2828 (toll free in WA State)



# CONTRIBUTION LIMITS

(Effective June 10, 2010)

## CONTRIBUTORS

	State Party	County and LD Party Committees	Caucus Political Committee (House or Senate)	Candidate Committees	Pacs, Unions, Corps and other entities	Individuals
State Party	Not Applicable	No Limit	No Limit	Only from Surplus Funds No Limit	\$4,000 per calendar year (non-exempt)	No Limit
County or LD Party Committee	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit	Only from Surplus Funds No Limit	\$4,000 per calendar year (non-exempt)	No Limit
Caucus Political Committee	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit	Only from Surplus Funds No Limit	\$800 per calendar year	No Limit
Statewide Executive Candidate	\$0.80 per Reg. Voter per cycle	\$0.40 per Reg. Voter per cycle (Joint Limit)	\$0.80 per Reg. Voter per cycle	Prohibited	\$1,600 per election	\$1,600 per election
Legislative Candidate	\$0.80 per Reg. Voter per cycle	\$0.40 per Reg. Voter per cycle (Joint Limit)	\$0.80 per Reg. Voter per cycle	Prohibited	\$800 per election	\$800 per election
Judicial Candidate	\$1,600 per election	\$1,600 per election	\$1,600 per election	Prohibited	\$1,600 per election	\$1,600 per election
County Office Candidate	\$0.80 per Reg. Voter per cycle	\$0.40 per Reg. Voter per cycle (Joint Limit)	\$0.80 per Reg. Voter per cycle	Prohibited	\$800 per election	\$800 per election
City Council or Mayor Candidate	\$0.80 per Reg. Voter per cycle	\$0.40 per Reg. Voter per cycle (Joint Limit)	\$0.80 per Reg. Voter per cycle	Prohibited	\$800 per election	\$800 per election
Port of Seattle or Port of Tacoma Commissioner Candidate	\$0.80 per Reg. Voter per cycle	\$0.40 per Reg. Voter per cycle (Joint Limit)	\$0.80 per Reg. Voter per cycle	Prohibited	\$1,600 per election	\$1,600 per election
PACS	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit	Prohibited	No Limit	No Limit

## RECIPIENTS

Limits apply only to candidates running in port districts with more than 200,000 registered voters.

- **Per cycle** means aggregate during the period from January 1 after the date of the previous general election for the office through December 31 after the upcoming general election for the office.
- **Per election** means per each primary, general, or special election for that office.
- **Per calendar year** means aggregate during the period from January 1 through December 31 each year.
- Contributions designated for the exempt account of a bona fide political party are NOT subject to limit, except during the 21 days before the general election when the \$5,000 maximum applies. See next column.
- During the 21 days before the general election, no contributor may donate over \$50,000 in the aggregate to a candidate for statewide office, or over \$5,000 in the aggregate to a candidate for any other office or to a political committee. This includes contributions to a party committee, as well as a candidate's personal contributions to his/her own campaign. It does not apply to contributions from the state committee of the WA State Democratic, Republican or Libertarian Party or from a minor party.

6/10/2010



## Contribution Limits to Candidates Subject to Limits

A candidate subject to limits is prohibited from accepting aggregate contributions exceeding the following amounts:

Source of Contribution	To State Executive or Port Commissioner* Candidates	To Legislative, County Office, Mayor, or City Council Candidates
Individual	\$1,600 <sup>1</sup>	\$800 <sup>1</sup>
Union or Business	1,600 <sup>1</sup>	800 <sup>1</sup>
Political Action Committee	1,600 <sup>1</sup>	800 <sup>1</sup>
State Party Central Committee	.80/voter <sup>2</sup>	.80/voter <sup>2</sup>
County Party Central Committee	.40/voter <sup>3</sup>	.40/voter <sup>4</sup>
Legislative District Committee	.40/voter <sup>3</sup>	.40/voter <sup>4</sup>
Minor Party Committee	.80/voter <sup>5</sup>	.80/voter <sup>5</sup>
Legislative Caucus Committee	.80/voter <sup>5</sup>	.80/voter <sup>5</sup>

\*only in jurisdictions with more than 200,000 registered voters as of the last General Election

**Any judicial candidate is prohibited from accepting aggregate contributions exceeding \$1,600 per election from any source.**

1 This is a per election limit; each primary, general and special election is considered a separate election. This limit does not apply to the candidate using personal funds to give to his or her own campaign. The limit does apply to the candidate's spouse.

**Primary election contributions must be made on or before the date of the primary unless a candidate lost the primary and has debt to retire.** Contributors may continue to make contributions to a candidate who loses the primary election and has insufficient funds to pay debts outstanding until the debt is retired or 30 days after the primary, whichever comes first.

**General election contributions must be made no later than December 31 of the election year.**

During the 21 days before the general election, no candidate for legislative office or local office may contribute to his or her own campaign more than \$5,000 in the aggregate, and no candidate for state executive office or supreme court justice may contribute to his or her own campaign more than \$50,000 in the aggregate.

2 The limit amount of \$.80 times the number of registered voters in the jurisdiction (as of the last general election) is for the entire election cycle. The election cycle is from January 1 after the last election for the office or the start of the candidate's campaign -- whichever is later -- through December 31 of the election year in which election is sought. Contributions must be made no later than December 31 of the election year.

3 During the election cycle (defined in #2 above), all county central committees and legislative district committees in the state share a combined limit to each candidate of \$.40 times the number of registered voters statewide as of the last general election. (However, during the 21 days before the general election, neither a county central committee nor a legislative district committee may give a state executive office candidate more than \$50,000 in the aggregate.) Contributions must be made on or before December 31 of the election year.

4 A county central and legislative district committee may only contribute to a candidate if voters residing in the city, county or legislative district are entitled to elect the candidate to the office sought. During the election cycle (defined in #2 above), a legislative district committee, in conjunction with all county central committees in that district, share a combined per candidate limit of \$.40 times the number of registered voters in the legislative district as of the last general election. (However, during the 21 days before the general, neither a county central committee nor a legislative district committee may give a city, county or legislative candidate more than \$5,000 in the aggregate.) Contributions must be made on or before December 31 of the election year.

5 The limit amount is for the entire election cycle. The election cycle is from January 1 after the last election for the office or the start of the candidate's campaign -- whichever is later -- through December 31 of the year in which election is sought. (However, during the 21 days before the general, a caucus political committee may not give a state executive candidate more than \$50,000 in the aggregate or a city, county or legislative candidate more than \$5,000 in the aggregate.) Contributions must be made on or before December 31 of the election year.