

Ten Reasons

Why Oklahoma's **BALLOT ACCESS** laws are broken,
an **INITIATIVE PETITION** is the way to fix them,
and Oklahomans are ready for **MORE VOTER CHOICE**.

1. Oklahoma was the **ONLY** state limited to just two choices for president in 2004.

2. **HALF** of Oklahoma's state legislative races were unopposed in the 2006 general election.

3. Oklahoma's ballot access law for third parties is the **MOST RESTRICTIVE** in the nation: requiring over 73,000 signatures to form a party in 2006 and nearly 50,000 signatures for 2008. 4. This was **TEN TIMES** the recent per capita requirement in Texas, Missouri, and New Mexico.

4. Oklahoma is one of only **FIVE** states that do NOT allow write-ins.

5. According to a recent *Ballot Access News* article^a, Oklahoma is also the most restrictive for Independent presidential candidates.

6. The Oklahoma legislature has demonstrated it will ignore reforming our restrictive ballot access laws, with four reform bills^b introduced since 1999, all **denied even a committee hearing**.

7. The Oklahoma Supreme Court refused to hear an appeal this year on a ballot access case, even though **Oklahoma's Constitution** says, "All elections shall be free and equal."^c

8. The Ballot Access Reform initiative petition would return the number of signatures required to form a new political party to **5000**, the requirement that existed from 1924 to 1974. This would make Oklahoma the 30th state requiring 5000 signatures or less this year for new parties or independent presidential candidates. It would also make it easier for a new political party to demonstrate support and stay on the ballot.

9. During the 50 years that the 5000 signature requirement was in place, only four parties, including the Republican and Democratic Parties, were on any one ballot.

10. **OKLAHOMANS ARE READY** for increased voter choice. Oklahoma Democrats chose from nine presidential candidates in 2004 and both parties will have nearly that many choices in 2008.

a. <http://www.ballot-access.org/2007/060107.html#3>

b. <http://www.okvoterchoice.org/resources.html>

c. Section III-5: <http://oklegal.onenet.net/okcon/III-5.html>



OBAR Oklahomans for
Ballot Access Reform

a coalition of Oklahomans working for FAIR laws that give voters genuine choices



Help us fix Oklahoma's unfair ballot access law! Get involved NOW!

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