

October 30, 2025

Charity Linch, State Chair Oklahoma Republican Party 4031 N. Lincoln Blvd. Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Representative John Waldron, State Chair Oklahoma Democratic Party 3815 N Santa Fe Ave., Suite 122 Oklahoma City, OK 73118

Jake Spann, State Chair Oklahoma Libertarian Party PO Box 1091 Choctaw, OK 73020

Dear Ms. Linch, Representative Waldron, and Mr. Spann,

Please be advised that the chair of each recognized political party in Oklahoma is required by state law to notify the Secretary of the State Election Board between November 1 and November 30 of an odd-numbered year whether it will permit registered voters designated "Independents" to vote in that party's Primary or Runoff Primary Elections in the next two calendar years.

As a courtesy, I am providing the text of the applicable state law below.

26 O.S. § 1-104(8) (emphasis added)

- B. 1. A recognized political party may permit registered voters designated as Independents pursuant to the provisions of Section 26-4-112 of this title to vote in a Primary Election or Runoff Primary Election of the party.
- 2. The state chairman of the party shall, between November 1 and 30 of every odd-numbered year, notify the Secretary of the State Election Board as to whether or not the party intends to permit registered voters designated as Independents to vote in a Primary Election or Runoff Primary Election of the party. If the state chairman notifies the Secretary of the State Election Board of the party's intention to so permit, registered voters designated as Independents shall be permitted to vote in any Primary Election or Runoff Primary Election of the party held in the following two (2) calendar years. If the state chairman of one party

notifies the Secretary of the State Election Board of the party's intent to so permit, the notification period specified in this paragraph shall be extended to December 15 for the state chairman of any other party to so notify or to change prior notification. A registered voter designated as Independent shall not be permitted to vote in a Primary Election or Runoff Primary Election of more than one party.

- 3. Failure to so notify the Secretary of the State Election Board shall serve to prohibit registered voters designated as Independents from voting in a Primary Election or Runoff Primary Election of the party.
- 4. A group of persons seeking to form a recognized political party pursuant to the provisions of Section 26-1-108 of this title shalt upon filing of the petitions seeking recognition of the political party with the Secretary of the State Election Board, notify the Secretary of the State Election Board as to whether or not the party intends to permit registered voters designated as Independents to vote in a Primary Election or Runoff Primary Election of the party. If the party is recognized and the group of persons seeking recognition of the party notifies the Secretary of the State Election Board of such intention, registered voters designated as Independents shall be permitted to vote in any Primary Election or Runoff Primary Election of the party held prior to January 1 of the following even-numbered year.

Please note that failure to file such a notice shall serve to prohibit registered voters designated as "Independents" from voting in that party's Primary or Runoff Primary Elections. If the state chair of one recognized political party notifies the Secretary of the State Election Board of the party's intent to so permit, then the notification period specified in the law is extended to December 15 for the state chair of any other recognized party to notify the Secretary or to change a prior notification.

Please send your written notification to:

Paul Ziriax, Secretary Oklahoma State Election Board 2300 N Lincoln Blvd., Room G28 Oklahoma City, Ok 73105

If you have any questions about this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at the State Election Board, (405) 521-2391. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Paul Ziriax, Secretary

Oklahoma State Election Board