

STATE QUESTION **836** INITIATIVE PETITION **448**

PROPONENT'S SUGGESTED BALLOT TITLE

Proponent's suggested ballot title is:

This initiative, which would add a new Article 3A to the Oklahoma Constitution, would establish an "open primary" system for elections for certain offices. In the open primary, all candidates for a covered office would appear on the same primary ballot without regard to party affiliation, and any qualified voter could vote for any candidate without regard to party affiliation. A voter in the open primary could vote for only one candidate per covered office. The two candidates receiving the most votes in the open primary would advance to the general election, without regard to party affiliation and without regard to whether the candidates have been nominated or endorsed by any political party. If only two candidates for a covered office qualify to appear on the ballot, then those candidates would automatically advance to the general election. The legislature could create a procedure for if a candidate will not participate in the general election due to death, withdrawal, or disqualification. In elections for covered offices, candidates would appear on the ballot in randomized order; candidates' political party registration or independent status as of the date of candidate filing would appear on the ballot next to their names; and the ballot would state that a candidate's indicated party registration does not imply the candidate is nominated or endorsed by the political party. The initiative would repeal Article 3, Section 3 of the Oklahoma Constitution, except that candidates for Presidential Elector would continue to be nominated by the recognized political parties at their conventions, and citizens could by petition continue to place the names of independent candidates on the ballot for that office. The measure may have a net positive or negative fiscal impact on the state.

Shall the proposal be approved?

For the proposal - YES

Against the proposal - NO

A "YES" vote is a vote in favor of the measure. A "NO" vote is a vote against this measure.

FILED

January 3, 2025

**Secretary of State
State of Oklahoma**

Instructions for Proponents:

1. Please type and insert only the full text of the suggested ballot title.
2. Do not write or type anywhere on this form except where indicated.
3. Once completed, this form must be submitted for filing along with a full copy of the proposed measure and a completed 'Proponent's Gist of the Proposition' form.

(OKSOS-SWIP-Fm01-1021)

WARNING

IT IS A FELONY FOR ANYONE TO SIGN AN INITIATIVE OR REFERENDUM PETITION WITH ANY NAME OTHER THAN HIS OWN, OR KNOWINGLY TO SIGN HIS NAME MORE THAN ONCE FOR THE MEASURE, OR TO SIGN THE PETITION WHEN HE IS NOT A LEGAL VOTER.

FILED

INITIATIVE PETITION

January 3, 2025

**Secretary of State
State of Oklahoma**

To the Honorable John Kevin Stitt, Governor of Oklahoma:

We the undersigned legal voters of the State of Oklahoma respectfully order that the following proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be submitted to the legal voters of the State of Oklahoma for their approval or rejection at the next regular general election (or at a special election as may be lawfully called by the Governor), and each for himself says: I have personally signed this petition; I am a legal voter of the State of Oklahoma; my first name, last name, zip code, house number, and month and day of my birth are correctly written on this form. The time for filing this petition expires ninety (90) days from _____ . The question we herewith submit to our fellow voters is:

Shall the following proposed amendment to the Oklahoma Constitution be approved?

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA THAT A NEW ARTICLE 3A OF THE OKLAHOMA CONSTITUTION BE APPROVED:

CONSTITUTION OF OKLAHOMA, ARTICLE 3A -- OPEN PRIMARIES

SECTION 1. APPLICATION

This Article shall govern the process for primary and general elections for the following elected offices: statewide offices, county offices, district attorney, members of the state legislature, members of the United States Congress (hereinafter, "covered offices"). The term "covered offices" does not include the office of Presidential Elector, municipal offices, judicial offices, school board members, or any other office not specified herein as a "covered office."

SECTION 2. OPEN PRIMARIES

A. The primary election process for covered offices shall consist of an "open primary election." In an open primary election, all candidates for a covered office shall appear on the same ballot without regard to the candidates' affiliation or lack of affiliation with any political party and without regard to whether the candidates have been nominated or endorsed by any political party. Any qualified voter may vote for any candidate for a covered office, without regard to the voter's affiliation or lack of affiliation with any political party.

B. A voter in an open primary election may vote for only one candidate for each covered office.

C. The two candidates who receive the most votes in the open primary election shall advance to the general election, without regard to their affiliation or lack of affiliation with any political party and without regard to whether the candidates have been nominated or endorsed by any political party.

D. If only two candidates qualify to appear on the ballot in the primary election for a covered office, then those two candidates shall automatically advance to the general election, without regard to the candidates' affiliation or lack of affiliation with any political party.

SECTION 3. GENERAL ELECTIONS

Only those two candidates advancing from the open primary election according to Section 2 of this Article shall appear on the general election ballot for covered offices; however, the Oklahoma Legislature may, by statute, create a procedure to be followed if a candidate who has advanced

according to Section 2 will not participate in the general election due to death, withdrawal from the race, or disqualification.

SECTION 4. THE BALLOT

In both open primary elections and general elections for all covered offices:

A. Candidates shall appear on the ballot in a randomized order.

B. The ballot shall state, next to the candidate’s name, each candidate’s political party registration or independent status as of the date of candidate filing. A candidate does not need to seek or gain approval of the political party to have the candidate’s registration with that party reflected on the ballot. Every ballot shall contain a statement informing voters that a candidate’s indicated party registration does not imply that the candidate is nominated or endorsed by the political party or that the party approves of or associates with that candidate.

SECTION 5. REPEALER

A. Article 3, Section 3 of this Constitution is hereby repealed.

B. Notwithstanding subsection A of this Section, candidates for the office of Presidential Elector shall continue to be nominated by the recognized political parties at their conventions, and citizens may, by petition, continue to place on the ballot the names of independent, nonpartisan candidates for that office.

SECTION 6. SEVERABILITY

The provisions of this Article are severable, and if any part or provision hereof shall be held void, invalid, or unconstitutional, the decision of the court so holding shall not affect or impair any of the remaining parts or provisions hereof, and the remaining provisions hereof shall continue in full force and effect.

SECTION 7. MISCELLANEOUS

The procedures described herein regarding open primary elections and general elections for a covered office shall apply to any special elections for covered offices.

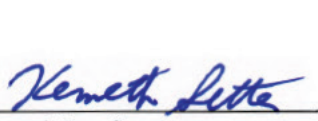
All provisions of this Constitution, state statute, and common law of Oklahoma to the extent inconsistent or in conflict with any provision of this Article are expressly declared null and void as to, and do not apply to, any activities provided for under this Article.

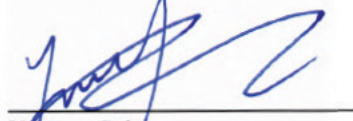
The Legislature may enact legislation to facilitate the operation of this Article, but no law shall limit, restrict or conflict with the provisions hereof.

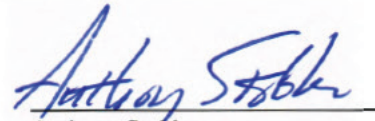
SECTION 8. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Article shall take effect 90 days after the date this Article is approved by the People; provided that, if the candidate filing period for a particular election begins before this Article is approved by the People, then this Article shall not apply to that election.

Name and Address of Proponents


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Tulsa, OK 74105


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Edmond, OK 73025

STATE QUESTION **836** INITIATIVE PETITION **448**

PROPONENT'S GIST OF THE PROPOSITION

This gist statement will be affixed at the top of the signature sheet for circulation of signature

The gist of the proposition is:

This initiative, which would add a new Article 3A to the Oklahoma Constitution, would establish an "open primary" system, as set forth therein, for elections for certain offices. In the open primary, all candidates for a covered office would appear on the same primary ballot without regard to party affiliation, and any qualified voter could vote for any candidate without regard to party affiliation. A voter in the open primary could vote for only one candidate per covered office. The two candidates receiving the most votes in the open primary would advance to the general election, without regard to party affiliation and without regard to whether the candidates have been nominated or endorsed by any political party. If only two candidates for a covered office qualify to appear on the ballot, then those candidates would automatically advance to the general election. The legislature could create a procedure to follow if a candidate will not participate in the general election due to death, withdrawal, or disqualification. In all elections for covered offices, candidates would appear on the ballot in randomized order; candidates' political party registration or independent status as of the date of candidate filing would appear on the ballot next to their names; and the ballot would state that a candidate's indicated party registration does not imply the candidate is nominated or endorsed by the political party. The initiative would repeal Article 3, Section 3 of the Oklahoma Constitution, except that candidates for Presidential Elector would continue to be nominated by the recognized political parties at their conventions, and citizens could by petition continue to place the names of independent candidates on the ballot for that office. The initiative provides for severability and an effective date. Further details are provided in the attached petition.

Instructions for Proponents:

1. Please type and insert only the full text of the suggested ballot title.
2. Do not write or type anywhere on this form except where indicated.
3. Once completed, this form must be submitted for filing along with a full copy of the proposed measure and a completed 'Proponent's Suggested Ballot Title' form.

(OKSOS-SWTP-Fm02-1021)

FILED

January 3, 2025

**Secretary of State
State of Oklahoma**