

Modified Closed Primary and Nonpartisan Voters

The California Primary election system is unique in that it allows nonpartisan voters, also known as decline to state voters, to vote either a nonpartisan ballot or a ballot from a political party that allows cross-over voting. (Nonpartisan voters are voters who have registered nonpartisan, have declined to state a political party or are registered with a non-qualified political party.)

If you did not select a political party when you registered to vote, some of the political parties will allow you to vote for their candidates. Upon request, you can vote a ballot of any political party that has notified the Secretary of State that it will permit nonpartisan voters to help nominate their candidates.

The following political parties are allowing nonpartisan voters to request and vote their party's ballot except for Central Committee races at the June 8, 2010, Statewide Direct Primary Election:

- **Democratic Party** (*excluding Central Committee races*)
- **Republican Party** (*excluding Central Committee races*)

The American Independent Party, Green Party, Libertarian Party, and the Peace and Freedom Party will not be allowing nonpartisan voters to vote their party's ballot in this election. As always, you may choose to vote for the nominee of any political party on the November General Election ballot.

You may NOT request more than one party's ballot. If you do not request a specific ballot, you will be given a nonpartisan ballot containing only state and local measures and local nonpartisan offices to be voted upon at the June 8, 2010, Statewide Direct Primary Election.

How and when to choose: To receive a party ballot, go to your polling place on Election Day and state your choice to the poll worker. If you want to vote by mail you may print a vote-by-mail application from the website or complete the form on the back of the sample ballot booklet. The Elections Division will mail ballots to voters starting 29 days prior to the Election. If you are already a Permanent vote-by-mail voter a postcard will be mailed to you indicating your choices, and you will simply fill it out and return it to the Elections Division.

You may contact the Elections Division if you have questions about this process at 530-886-5650 or toll free in California at 1-800-824-8683. You may also contact the Secretary of State's Office at their toll free number 1-800-345-8683 or visit their website at www.sos.ca.gov for more information.