

Libertarian Party

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Dear Fellow Libertarian,

As you may know, Oklahoma has been one of the worst states for ballot access for third parties. It is the only state in the nation in which only the R and D candidates for President appeared in the ballot in 2004, 2008 & 2012.

It has been 15 long years since any voter in Oklahoma has been able to vote for a Libertarian for President. Not since Harry Browne was on the ballot in 2000 have Oklahomans been able to vote for a Libertarian, or any other candidate outside of the two old parties.

And, to add insult to injury, Oklahoma is one of five states that bans write-in voting—so the people of Oklahoma were told by their state government: Vote R, Vote D, or SHUT UP!

Fifteen years is long enough!

Today, with your help, we can make sure that the LP presidential ticket—and many other Libertarian Party candidates—will be on the ballot in Oklahoma in 2016.

After years of lobbying by the LP and a coalition of ballot access reformers, the Oklahoma legislature finally passed a law this year that reduces the number of signatures needed to qualify a political party for the ballot from 41,242 to 24,745. That's a 40% reduction in the number of valid signatures needed to get on the ballot in Oklahoma.

While we fought hard for a much lower number of signatures, this was the best we could get from the state legislature...for now. We will continue to work for lower ballot access barriers in Oklahoma, but the legislative session is over.

Now it's time to get to work.

A successful petition drive in Oklahoma will likely cost \$60,000. That's a big number when the current financial situation of the Libertarian National Committee is tight.

That's the bad news. Now to the good news.

At the Libertarian Party National Convention in 2014, we honored long time ballot access activist Richard Winger, by naming him to the Libertarian Party Hall of Liberty. No greater honor can be bestowed on a Libertarian Party member. It would be impossible to list all he has done for ballot access—and the Libertarian Party—over the years. Improving ballot access is literally his life's work.

But, Richard is not resting on his laurels. Getting the Libertarian Party on the ballot in Oklahoma means so much to him that he is willing to commit \$30,000 of his own money for a successful petition drive, which would cover half the petition drive.

But, the worst thing to have happen would be for Richard's donation to not accomplish what it was intended to do. He can't afford that. We can't afford that.

That is why we need you. Richard's contribution is contingent on another \$30,000 being raised specifically for the Oklahoma petition drive, to ensure that we have enough money in the bank to see it through.

I wish I could fully match Richard's extremely generous donation to finish this off between just the two of us. I would if I could. I am already a monthly pledger to the LNC (and I urge all of you to become that, as well), but I will kick off the match with a \$1,000 special donation, if the other members of the Libertarian Party will kick in the other \$29,000.

But, time is of the essence! A \$60,000 petition drive will only work NOW. We have a window of opportunity to run the most cost efficient petition drive possible during the Summer of 2015. Initiative petitions will start circulating in some states this fall, with the 2016 petition drives following those. Both of those will drive up the demand for—and cost of—petitioners.

The Libertarian Party can be back on the ballot in Oklahoma after 15 long years, but we can't do it without you. Please help us seize this incredible opportunity to give Oklahomans a real political choice in 2016 and send in your most generous contribution.

If you can give \$29,000 to make sure we succeed, please do. If that's beyond your means right now, I understand. If you can at least match my pledge of \$1,000, it would help immensely. If that is too much for you, please give what you can to make sure this project succeeds.

Every dollar you contribute will be specifically earmarked for ballot access in Oklahoma. And, if we don't raise the whole \$29,000, we will offer to refund every penny that you contributed.

This petition drive is crucial not just to get the LP Presidential ticket, a US Senate candidate and possibly dozens of other Libertarian candidates on the ballot in Oklahoma in 2016. It will give Oklahomans the political alternative they have been starving for, help change the political culture of that state, and lay the groundwork for further ballot access petitioning requirement reductions in the future.

Please contribute TODAY, so that we can get this petition drive going within the next few days and lay the groundwork for a great 2016 for the Libertarian Party and our candidates.

Thank you very much,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Redpath". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

William Redpath
At-Large Representative
Chair, Ballot Access Committee
Libertarian National Committee

P.S. We need to start this drive ASAP before other petition drives start around the country which drive up the price of paid petitioners. The total drive will cost \$60,000. Richard Winger pledged \$30,000 if we can do the rest. I'm giving \$1,000. That leaves \$29,000 we need to raise. Please rush back your contribution today.