

APPENDIX

For far, FAR too long the NJ Primary election ballots have been undemocratic, using a "party line" to intentionally steer voters to vote for candidates chosen by "party bosses" by giving them a more favorable position on the ballot.

NJ has closed Primaries so EVERY candidate on the Democrat ballot is a Democrat! There is no reason to have certain candidates listed on a line as "party candidates"! The extremely low NJ Primary voter turnout is due to the "party line" and voters feeling there is no reason to vote, since the "party candidates" were already chosen before the Primary!

It also deters candidates NOT chosen by "party bosses" from running, because they are put in "ballot Siberia" and their chance of winning election is greatly diminished.

Let's have true democratic Primary elections in NJ and let the VOTERS decide who WE want running in the General election, representing AND answering to the voters! NOT "party bosses"!

And NOT end up with horrid candidates like we did Jeff VanDrew!!

It's time for fair NJ Primary election ballots!

It's time to End The Line!

Helen Duda

From: Satoshi Morishita
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 5:54 PM
To: OLSaideABD <OLSaideABD@njleg.org>
Subject: Testimony

Hello:

I am writing this testimony to showcase my opposition to the "County Line" scheme that your committee is trying to revive. Don't deny it, the voters **ARE NOT** stupid to see through your bullshit shenanigans. And I'm sick of it!!

The rest of the country OUTSIDE of NJ has office-bloc ballots, two states have Ranked Choice Voting too, which has shown to be helpful in enhancing democracy, time and time again. Voters are educated on the system too.

The whole idea of name recognition is designed to bring awareness, especially about the policy proposals you've made. Every single person on this committee who trying to bring back the "County Line" has constituents who oppose this statewide regardless of political affiliation.

Let's not forget for when they see you on this bullshit committee, they will remember you and definitely vote you out of office.

And those "representing" your constituents, your county clerks awarded the county line to the unqualified NJ First Lady Tammy Murphy. That's blatant nepotism:

1. Assemblyman Dan Hutchison (Atlantic, Camden, Gloucester)
2. Assemblywoman Ellen Park (Bergen),
3. Assemblywoman Eliana Pintor Marin (Essex, Hudson)
4. Assemblyman Gabriel Rodriguez (Hudson)

As for Dan Hutchinson, he represents parts of Camden County where the Camden County Democratic Committee had a convention on 3/16/24. That day in his county, the committee members blocked Andy Kim and Patricia Campos-Medina from the convention.

Both of them are candidates of color, while Tammy Murphy was let in without issue. To the average person, it is considered racist, discriminatory and inexcusable.

And some of you on this committee voted to gut the Open Public Records Act too, which brings even more mistrust in NJ.

November 5th's margin of victory in this state is an indictment of the party boss system you always heralded.

You're not as powerful as you think you are and you could lose reelection or renomination in a finger snap.

2x

Don't even think about trying to mess with your constituents nor be surprised when you're out of office or facing challengers. We'll simply say "You're shit outta luck."

If you dare bring back the County Line horsehit, everyone in this state will see you in the primaries and/or general election and vote you out. We know who you are and are watching you!



1.



Campos-Medina Blisters Camden Dems
insidernj.com

- 2.
- 3.



Tammy Murphy wins the line in Gloucester
County
newjerseyglobe.com

- 4.
- 5. 3. <https://www.insidernj.com/tammy-murphy-scores-the-passaic-county-democratic-line/>
- 6.
- 7. 4. <https://www.politico.com/news/2024/03/04/tammy-murphy-wins-crucial-democratic-convention-in-nj-s-largest-county-in-blowout-00144849>
- 8.



Andy Kim
@AndyKimNJ

This is not what democracy looks like. It's plain wrong to deny @Patricia4NJ from entering a Camden Dem committee meeting to determine Senate endorsements. She's been a leader on vital issues and deserves to have her voice heard. I also asked to join the meeting and was denied. Making endorsements without a fair process undermines our democracy. Democrats need to do better.

Patricia Campos Medina @Patricia... · 3/16/24

I was denied entry to Camden County Dems Convention. As a Latina woman candidate, I demand fairness. Time to abolish the county line for equal ballot access. Proud to stand for real representation. #Patricia4Senate #AbolishTheLineNJ @andykimnj @tammymurphy @NJDCS



Post your reply

5x

- 10.
11. Regrets,
12. Seamus McGinn - West Deptford, NJ

My name is Peggy O'Reilly and I am a resident of Monroe Township in Middlesex County. I would like to testify in support of legislation to require that all political parties in all counties use the ballot block design to promote free and fair primary elections.

As a retired educator, learning disabilities teacher consultant and literacy specialist, I support the block ballot design consistent with the provisions of the Quraishi decision for a number of reasons. First from a literacy perspective, the block design is clear and easy to read, interpret and complete. It is also a format that the public is very familiar with from their own elementary through high school academic activities. Additionally, this format is used in a large majority of other states in the country without confusion. Because people relocate to NJ from other states, it is very likely that they will be familiar with this ballot style.

I would also advocate that candidates names appear on the ballot based on randomized draws for each candidate, ideally using a software program to avoid fixed primary order advantages. In addition, I would advocate for no slogans or no party endorsements to be included on the ballot for each candidate to create a level playing field. Such information should be part of campaigning prior to voting and not part of the ballot design.

Thank you for the opportunity to give testimony

Peggy O'Reilly

7x