

Andrea Gyger

From: Cindy [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 7:05 PM
To: SoS Rulemaking
Subject: Comments - election rules - 1/14/2016 hearing

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I believe there is an egregious oversight in the rules and regulations for selection of election judges.

As you aware the primary method a registered voter in good standing may work as an election judge in Colorado is to sign up at his/her political caucus. This works very well for Republicans and Democrats, but excludes unaffiliated voters since there are no caucuses for unaffiliated voters.

While this is not quite disenfranchisement, I feel fairly confident that it is also not what the framers of the Constitution had in mind. In fact, George Washington eschewed political parties, which only came into being after his term as our first president.

I am one of those unaffiliated voters affected by this prejudice which certainly raises ethical questions.

In addition to being a bona fide voter and tax payer, I have worked as an election judge at local polling stations in Douglas County for many elections and recently as an envelope opener and ballot sorter at the very same Douglas County voting center where I am now apparently unlikely to be able to work. That is, unless there is a dearth of registered major party members followed by a dearth of members of the minority parties willing to work as election judges. This unexpected and disturbing situation is because I have exercised my right as a United States citizen not to affiliate with either of the major political parties for a number of carefully considered reasons.

In addition to this being grossly unfair to a significant number of voters (as much as 30% or more in some precincts), it is inefficient. At the voting center, everything is done in pairs with no two members of the same party allowed to work together on any aspect of the voting process. This seems proper. However, having unaffiliated voters available to participate adds scheduling flexibility as an unaffiliated voter can work with a member of either of the major parties, as needed.

I respectfully request in the drafting of the new rules that consideration be given to allow unaffiliated voters the same privileges as those who choose to affiliate with either of the major parties - Democratic or Republican. I consider working as an election judge to be a part of fulfilling my civic responsibility as an American citizen.

I look forward to hearing from you regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Cindy (Cynthia) Livingston

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]