

BALLOT ACCESS NEWS

San Francisco, California

June 24, 1991

Volume 7 Number 4

FLORIDA EASES 1992 PETITIONING FOR CONGRESS, LEGISLATURE

On May 24, Florida Governor Lawton Chiles signed HB 2251, which makes it easier for third parties and independent candidates to get on the November 1992 ballot, for congress and state legislature. The bill contains many unrelated election law changes as well, mostly concerning campaign finance. Unfortunately, the ballot access improvements only apply to 1992 and to other future election years which immediately follow reapportionment (the years 2002, 2012, etc.).

Under the bill, third parties may circulate a petition labelled only with the name of that party and which type of office it relates to (Congress, State Senate or State House of Representatives). The petition will not specify any district, nor the names of any candidates. For every 5,626 valid signatures obtained on the Congressional petition, the party can later hold a convention and name a candidate for Congress in any district it wishes, even though the signatures may have been collected from a completely different part of Florida. Similarly, for every 3,235 signatures on the State Senate petition, the party will be able to later name a candidate for the State Senate; and for every 1,079 signatures on the State House of Representatives petition, it will be able to later nominate a candidate for the State House.

The procedure is the same for independent candidates, except that the petition carries the name of that candidate. However, the petition signatures can be circulated anywhere in the state, regardless of where the independent will be running or where he or she lives.

The reason for this procedure is that Florida won't have its reapportionment done until the spring of 1992, and Florida knows that it would be unconstitutional to deprive third parties and independent candidates of a significant portion of the time in which to petition. Under the old, normal procedure, in which petitioning can only be carried out within district boundaries, it is obviously necessary for the district number and boundaries to be known.

The number of signatures equals 1% of the population in an average Florida district. If the U.S. Census Bureau should decide to adjust U.S. population figures upward, to account for persons missed by the Census, the figures above will also rise, to 5,773 signatures for each Congressional candidate, 3,320 for each State Senate candidate, and 1,107 for each State House candidate. However, the new law says any such adjustment must be made by July 1, 1991, in order to count. The Census Bureau may very well adjust the figures upward, but is unlikely to do so before July 15, so chances are good that the requirements will not rise due to a census adjustment.

As under the old law, the petitioning period will be from early January to mid-July. Parties must choose their candidates no later than May.

The Florida law had been revised in 1990 to permit third parties to qualify in just one portion of the state. Previously a party had to qualify in the entire state, or it couldn't qualify anywhere. Under the law in effect before the 1991 bill, third parties would have needed 7,867 signatures in the average Congressional district, 4,523 signatures in the average State Senate district, and 1,508 signatures in the average State House district, with the added handicap that signatures could only be collected within the boundaries of any particular district.

There haven't been any third party candidates (labelled as such) for Congress or legislature on the Florida ballot since 1976, but there probably will be some in 1992.

COURT DUCKS PARTY SPEECH ISSUE

On June 17, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a ruling a *Renne v Geary*, no. 90-769, the case over whether a state may make it illegal for a party to endorse or oppose candidates for non-partisan office. The ruling is anti-climactic. It merely states that the plaintiffs in the case do not have standing to challenge the California law, and that the case is dismissed "without prejudice". This means that it is as though the case never existed. If any political party wishes to challenge the ban on its speech, it must start all over with a new case. The vote was 6-3.

The majority decision, by Anthony Kennedy, stated that for a lawsuit to be in a position to challenge the California law, it must be filed by a plaintiff political party which wishes to endorse, or oppose, a particular candidate in a particular non-partisan election. The case before the court lacked any political party plaintiff and didn't concern any particular candidate. The Democratic and Libertarian Parties had filed an *amicus* brief in the case, but the Court didn't even mention that.

Justices Byron White, Thurgood Marshall and Harry Blackmun felt that the plaintiffs did have standing and that the Court should rule on the merits. White stated he would have upheld the companion California law which bans any mention of a partisan endorsement in a non-partisan candidate's statement in the Voters Handbook (which is printed by county governments). White didn't express an opinion on the endorsement ban itself. Marshall and Blackmun said that they would have struck down the ban.

It is likely that a new lawsuit will be filed against the ban, with the proper type of plaintiffs. In the meantime, there is a hearing in the 9th circuit on July 25 in another part of the case, on the ban on mentioning an endorsement in the Voters Handbook. *Geary v Renne*, no. 89-15601.

CONGRESSIONAL BALLOT ACCESS BILL

Jackie Ellis, the aide to Congressman Major Owens, and the person handling the ballot access bill, said on June 18 that the only reason Owens still hasn't introduced the bill is because Leg. Counsel still hasn't finished preparing it.

DEMS, REPS ORDERED TO HOLD PRIMARY

On June 10, 1991, federal district Judge Edward N. Cahn ruled in *Trinsey v Commonwealth of Pennsylvania*, no. 91-2749, Eastern District, that it violates the U.S. Constitution when large political parties nominate a candidate for U.S. Senator by means other than primary. He ruled that Pennsylvania can't hold a special election to fill a vacant Senate seat, unless it holds Democratic and Republican primaries for the seat.

The case arose when U.S. Senator John Heinz was killed in an accident on April 4, 1991. According to state law, a special election to fill his vacant seat was planned for November 5, 1991. Pennsylvania provides that qualified political parties nominate by meeting of the state central committee, rather than with a primary, in special elections (the Pennsylvania primary this year was May 21, so it was too late to hold a regularly-scheduled primary). A rank-and-file Republican voter, John S. Trinsey, brought a lawsuit alleging that it violates the U.S. Constitution for large political parties to nominate for U.S. Senator by any means other than by primary, and he won the case.

The state of Pennsylvania filed an appeal on June 13, and the Democratic and Republican Parties of Pennsylvania are intervening in the appeal, on the side of the state law. The state persuaded the Court of Appeals to expedite the case; there will be a hearing on July 8. In the Court of Appeals, the case number is 91-1490 and 91-1491.

Judge Cahn's decision says nothing about the Pennsylvania procedures for third party and independent candidates to get on the ballot in the special election. The law requires them to obtain 41,305 signatures by September 6. However, the Judge's order says "Pennsylvania has no duty to include the plaintiff as an independent candidate on the November ballot". It is odd that the decision contains no discussion of the procedures for independent candidates, and yet the Order denies any relief for them. Trinsey had challenged the independent candidate procedures as well as demanding a primary for Democratic and Republican voters.

Judge Cahn based his decision on the 17th amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which passed in 1913 and says that U.S. Senators should be elected by the people. Prior to 1913, state legislatures chose U.S. Senators. The trouble with the decision is that it confuses election with nomination. Many states didn't have primaries for any political party back in 1913, and no one at that time thought the 17th amendment requires parties to hold primaries, instead of conventions, to nominate candidates for the U.S. Senate. Major parties in Virginia still sometimes nominate candidates for U.S. Senate by convention, rather than by primary.

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in 1974 that it does not violate the Constitution for a state to provide that small political parties should nominate by convention. Judge Cahn got around this by saying that candidates of small political parties and independent candidates "are not likely to succeed in the general election".

The decision won acclaim in Pennsylvania. The *Philadelphia Inquirer* editorialized on June 13: "The decision to require a primary for Pennsylvania Senate election is correct." Adding to the appeal is the fact that the plaintiff, Jack Trinsey, acted as his own attorney, giving his victory a "David v. Goliath" aspect. Furthermore, nomination by primary is far more popular with the public than nomination by party committee, at a time when ordinary voters feel alienated and out of touch with political party organizations. But political parties have First Amendment rights, and if the Republican and Democratic Parties would rather nominate by party committee than by primary, they should be able to do so. Voters who don't like the way the Democratic and Republican Parties carry on their affairs, ought to be free to support other political parties, but Judge Cahn didn't seem to have any sympathy for that viewpoint.

Judge Cahn is a Ford appointee who had one previous ballot access case. In 1979, he ruled unconstitutional Pennsylvania's law that a certain number of signatures had to come from ten different counties, for candidates trying to gain a place on a statewide presidential primary ballot.

LOSS IN DEBATE LAWSUIT

On June 14, the U.S. Court of Appeals, D.C. circuit, ruled that Lenora Fulani (1988 presidential candidate of the New Alliance Party) has no standing to challenge the tax-exempt status of the Commission on Presidential Debates. The vote was 2-1. *Fulani v Brady*, no. 90-5063. Judges David Sentelle, a Reagan appointee, and Karen Henderson, a Bush appointee, signed the decision; Judge Abner Mikva, a Carter appointee, dissented. The Commission hosts the general election presidential debates. It enjoys tax-exempt status, yet the IRS code denies tax-exempt status to partisan organizations. The question is whether the Commission, which excludes all presidential candidates from its debates other than the Democratic and Republican nominees, acts in a partisan manner. The court didn't decide this, but ruled that someone in Fulani's shoes has no right to raise the issue in court. Fulani had won on the standing issue in another case she filed, against the League of Women Voters, in the 2nd circuit, so now there is a split in the circuits and the Supreme Court may be willing to hear this case.

GEORGIA DEBATE CASE APPEALED

The Georgia Libertarian Party appealed to the Supreme Court in *Chandler v Georgia Public Telecommunications Commission*, no. 90-1863, on May 30. The issue is whether a state-owned TV station may broadcast debates in which only the Democratic and Republican candidates are invited to debate, even when there is another candidate on the ballot. The District Court ruled that government-owned TV stations cannot do that, but the 11th circuit reversed that by a vote of 2-1. Other states which own TV stations are Alabama, Arkansas, Hawaii, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota and Wisconsin. The Supreme Court will say in October whether it will hear this case.

MISSOURI GOVERNOR

John Ashcroft, Missouri Governor, still hasn't either signed nor vetoed HB 184, the bill which contains the ballot access improvements. He has until July 14 to act.

One reason for the delay may be that Dan Schlafly, a resident of St. Louis, has been trying to persuade the Governor to veto the bill, because he is dissatisfied with a provision in the bill which changes the method for electing the St. Louis school board. Schlafly has been working hard to gain support for his point of view. It is unfortunate that HB 184, a single bill, contains so many unrelated provisions. It is important that supporters of the ballot access change write Governor John Ashcroft and urge him to sign HB 184. The address is simply Jefferson City, Mo. 65101. The existing Missouri ballot access law is so harsh that Missouri voters had fewer choices on their ballots, for president, than the residents of any other state, in the last two presidential elections.

ALABAMA BILLS INTRODUCED

Two of the Secretary of State's ballot access ideas have been introduced into the legislature. H 780 would improve the petition deadline for new parties and independent candidates from April to June (although the independent presidential candidate deadline, which is already much later, would not be affected). H 822 would reduce the vote required for a party to remain qualified, from 20%, to 5%, for any statewide candidate. Both bills passed the House Elections Committee early this month.

NORTH CAROLINA BILL PASSES

HB 391, which makes it easier for non-statewide independent candidates to get on the ballot, passed the Senate on June 13 by a vote of 36-4, and is now law. The bill lowers the petition requirement for all independents (other than statewide candidates) to 4% of the number of registered voters. The old law required 5% for congressional and multi-county legislative candidates, and 10% for single-county legislative candidates and county office. The 10% requirement was held unconstitutional earlier this year in federal court. The new law has no effect on statewide independent candidates, who still need petitions signed by 2% of the registered voters.

The only states which now require an independent candidate for Congress or legislature to submit a petition signed by 5% of the registered voters are Georgia and South Carolina. No state has a requirement above 5% of the registered voters (for independent candidates for Congress or legislature) except Hawaii, which has a 10% requirement.

GOOD NORTH DAKOTA RULING

On June 10, North Dakota Secretary of State Jim Kusler ruled that a new political party may begin to circulate its petition as early as it wishes. Although there is a state law which says that all petitions must be circulated during the 90 days before the deadline, Kusler ruled that this law does not apply to the petition to create a new party.

GOOD MAINE BILL DEFEATED

LD 1482 was defeated in the House on May 30, by a vote of 93-38. Republicans voted against it 11-39 and Democrats voted against it 27-54. On June 5, the State Senate also defeated the bill, by a voice vote. The bill would have made it easier for a small qualified party to nominate candidates, and had been initiated by the Libertarian Party. Under existing law, it is impossible for that party to place any candidates on its own primary ballot, because such candidates need up to 2,000 signatures on a petition, and only registered Libertarians can sign such candidate petitions. There aren't that many registered Libertarians in Maine.

The party plans to file a lawsuit against the law, and already has an attorney willing to do the proposed lawsuit.

OTHER LEGISLATIVE NEWS

California: AB 177 passed the Senate Elections Committee on June 19. This bill deletes parts of the election code which tell political parties when and where to hold their meetings. SB 661, which would outlaw the practice of paying initiative petitioners according to how many signatures they turn in, passed the Senate on June 13. AB 1820, which moves the presidential primary from June to March, will receive a hearing in the Assembly Ways & Means Committee during the last week of June.

Illinois: SB 1, which would move the 1994 primary from March to September, was sent to interim study by the House Elections Committee on June 13.

New Hampshire: SB 195 passed both houses of the legislature on June 12. It restores filing fees, none of which are higher than \$100. The 1989 legislature had abolished filing fees for candidates who promise to abide by voluntary spending ceilings, but the state missed the revenue that filing fees supply.

Rhode Island: HB 6780, which would change the deadline for a third party or independent presidential candidate to submit a petition, from July, to September, didn't receive a hearing in the Senate, and the legislature recessed on June 11. However, the bill may advance next year, when the legislature reconvenes.

South Carolina: SB 362, which would provide that the government take over the job of holding partisan primaries, is in conference committee. The legislature has adjourned but will take up the bill when it returns, either this fall or next year. South Carolina is the only state in which the Republican and Democratic Parties now pay for their own primary, and do all the work of holding it.

CANDIDACY CASE

The U.S. Supreme Court will probably announce on July 1 whether it will hear *Grossmont Union High School District v Davies*, no. 90-1720, a case over whether the right to be a candidate is a fundamental right. The case, if accepted by the Court, will probably have a great impact on the movement to limit terms of legislators.

NEW JERSEY EXPANDS PARTY RIGHTS

The New Jersey State Supreme Court expanded political party rights on April 10, 1991, when it released an opinion in *Catania v Haberle*, 588 A 2d 374, which had been filed by the Republican Party of New Jersey. The decision says that qualified political parties must be given the right to nominate candidates for partisan office by committee, when the primary election leaves that party with no nominee.

New Jersey election law doesn't really give parties this right in all cases, but the Court declared that "providing the public with a choice between candidates is one of the most important objectives of our election laws", and interpreted the law to give parties this right. In the particular election which triggered the lawsuit (a special election for member of the Assembly), the Democratic Party candidate would have been the only candidate on the ballot if the law had been interpreted narrowly.

Other states which give qualified political parties the right to nominate a candidate by committee or convention, when the primary fails to produce a nominee, are Alabama, Idaho, Illinois, Massachusetts, Mississippi, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia and West Virginia. The Libertarian Party of California is currently pursuing a lawsuit in federal court which, if successful, would establish a precedent that the U.S. Constitution protects a political party's right to make such nominations, if its own bylaws so provide.

SOLIDARITY PARTY WILL SUE

The Illinois Solidarity Party will file a lawsuit to overturn the Attorney General decision which removed it from the ballot, unless the Attorney General reverses himself.

OREGON REGISTRATION FORMS

The Oregon Secretary of State has announced that Oregon voter registration forms will henceforth list the Libertarian Party as well as the Democratic and Republican Parties. The Libertarian Party has been qualified there since 1988.

"DEMOCRACY IN DEBATES" BILL

HR 791, the "Democracy in Debates" bill introduced in January by Congressman Timothy Penny of Minnesota, gained two more co-sponsors this month, Congressmen John Lewis of Georgia and Charles Hayes of Illinois.

INDIANA PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS

On June 10, as expected, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear the New Alliance Party's appeal in *Fulani v Hogsett*, no. 90-1608, the case in which the party sued the Indiana Secretary of State for damages, for putting George Bush and Michael Dukakis on the November 1988 ballot even though they failed to meet the deadline for submitting their candidates for presidential elector. The lower court had held that the New Alliance Party had standing to sue, but that no award of damages was justified, since the party filed the case too late.

NO VERMONT PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

On June 12, Vermont's budget for 1992 was signed into law, without any appropriation for the 1992 presidential primary. Consequently, that primary will not be held. The Vermont presidential primary has existed since 1976.

The loss of the primary is a blow to the Liberty Union Party, which has been on the ballot in Vermont since 1970. The Liberty Union Party's presidential primary had been a place where various socialist parties could test the strength of their presidential campaigns. In 1980, Socialist David McReynolds defeated Communist Gus Hall in the primary by 165 to 76 (there were also 257 votes for Earl Gardner, a Vermonter representing those Liberty Unionists who didn't wish to endorse any other party's presidential candidate). In 1984, New Alliance Party candidate Dennis Serrette won with 280 votes (no one was on the ballot against him, but there were 234 write-ins for various other people). In 1988, Socialist Willa Kenoyer defeated Herb Lewin of the Internationalist Workers Party by 199 to 66.

INDEPENDENT SUES ARIZONA

Diane Casey, who has been a Deputy Registrar of Voters in Arizona and who is registered "Independent", is suing Maricopa County because the county enforced a state law against her. The law says that only appointees of qualified parties may be Deputy Registrars. Casey alleges that the law is unconstitutional. *Casey v Purcell*, Maricopa Superior Court, no. CV-91-10556.

RON DANIELS 1992 CAMPAIGN

Ron Daniels, former executive director of the National Rainbow Coalition, will likely run for president as a third party or independent candidate next year. However, he has put off until August any formal announcement, and he has not decided whether to run as an independent candidate or to create a new party. He has been traveling, raising money and gathering support. His syndicated column for the week of April 15 was titled, "Blacks Must Break the Two Party Monopoly Over Politics in the U.S.", but the column didn't discuss his own personal plans for 1992.

LENORA FULANI 1992 CAMPAIGN

Lenora Fulani, a declared independent presidential candidate and also a candidate for the New Alliance Party nomination, has already raised enough funds in five states toward primary season matching federal funds. Twenty states are required, in order to obtain federal funds.

BALLOT ACCESS NEWS (ISSN 10436898) is published by Richard Winger, Field Representative of the Coalition for Free and Open Elections, \$6 per year, thirteen times per year, every 4 weeks, at 3201 Baker St., San Francisco CA 94123. Second class postage paid at San Francisco CA. © 1991 by Richard Winger. Permission is freely granted for reprinting *Ballot Access News*.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Ballot Access News* at 3201 Baker St, San Francisco Ca 94123.

1992 PETITIONING

STATE	REQUIREMENTS			SIGNATURES COLLECTED				DEADLINES	
	FULL PARTY	CAND.	LIBT	NAP	ENVIR	POPULIST	PARTY	CAND.	
Alabama	12,157	5,000	finished	2,700	0	0	law void	Aug 31	
Alaska	2,035	2,035	*1,200	0	already on	0	Aug 25	Aug 25	
Arizona	21,109	10,555	*13,000	*800	2,500	0	May 16	Sep 18	
Arkansas	20,890	0	can't start	can't start	can't start	can't start	May 5?	Sep 1	
California	(reg) 79,188	134,781	already on	0	*25,500	0	Dec 31, 91	Aug 7	
Colorado	no procedure	5,000	0	0	0	0	-	Aug 4	
Connecticut	no procedure	14,620	can't start	can't start	can't start	can't start	-	Aug 7	
Delaware	(reg.) 145	(es) 2,900	already on	141	0	0	Aug 22	Jul 15	
D.C.	no procedure	(es) 2,600	can't start	can't start	can't start	can't start	-	Aug 18	
Florida	180,935	60,312	0	0	0	0	Jul 14	Jul 15	
Georgia	26,955	27,009	already on	0	0	*1,200	Aug 4	Aug 4	
Hawaii	4,534	4,177	already on	0	*2,300	0	Apr 22	Sep 4	
Idaho	8,180	4,090	already on	can't start	can't start	can't start	Aug 31	Aug 25	
Illinois	no procedure	25,000	can't start	can't start	can't start	can't start	-	Aug 3	
Indiana	no procedure	29,890	0	0	0	0	-	Jul 15	
Iowa	no procedure	1,000	0	0	0	0	-	Aug 14	
Kansas	15,661	5,000	already on	0	0	0	Apr 11	Aug 4	
Kentucky	no procedure	5,000	0	0	0	0	-	Aug 27	
Louisiana	(reg) 110,000	0	approx 150	0	0	0	Jun 30	Sep 1	
Maine	26,139	4,000	already on	0	0	0	Dec 12,91	Jun 2	
Maryland	10,000	(es) 70,000	already on	0	0	*200	Aug 3	Aug 3	
Massachs.	(reg) 33,000	11,715	can't start	can't start	can't start	can't start	Jul 1	Jul 28	
Michigan	25,646	25,646	already on	0	0	0	Jul 16	Jul 16	
Minnesota	92,156	2,000	can't start	can't start	can't start	can't start	ap. May 1	Sep 15	
Mississippi	just be org.	1,000	already on	0	0	0	ap. Apr 1	Sep 4	
Missouri	no procedure	20,860	0	0	0	0	-	Aug 3	
Montana	9,531	9,531	already on	0	0	0	Mar 12	Jul 29	
Nebraska	5,834	2,500	100	0	0	0	Aug 1	Aug 25	
Nevada	9,392	9,392	already on	0	0	0	Aug 11	Sep 1	
New Hamp.	no procedure	3,000	already on	0	0	0	-	Aug 5	
New Jersey	no procedure	800	0	0	0	0	-	Jul 27	
New Mexico	2,069	12,409	already on	already on	0	0	Jul 14	Sep 8	
New York	no procedure	20,000	can't start	can't start	can't start	can't start	-	Aug 18	
North Carolina	43,601	(es) 65,000	55,000	*500	0	0	in doubt	Jun 26	
North Dakota	7,000	4,000	*0	*0	*0	*0	Apr 10	Sep 4	
Ohio	34,777	5,000	0	0	0	0	Jan 6	Aug 20	
Oklahoma	45,566	35,132	0	0	0	0	Jun 1	July 15	
Oregon	(es) 36,000	(att.) 1,000	already on	0	*1,200	0	Aug 25	Aug 25	
Penn.	no procedure	(es) 27,000	can't start	can't start	can't start	can't start	-	Aug 1	
Rhode Isl.	no procedure	1,000	can't start	can't start	can't start	can't start	-	in doubt	
South Carolina	10,000	10,000	already on	already on	0	0	May 2	Aug 1	
South Dakota	6,419	2,568	0	0	0	0	Apr 7	Aug 4	
Tennessee	19,759	25	0	0	0	0	ap. May 1	Sep 3	
Texas	38,900	54,269	already on	can't start	can't start	can't start	May 25	May 11	
Utah	500	300	already on	0	0	0	Mar 16	Sep 1	
Vermont	just be org.	1,000	finished	0	0	0	Sep 17	Sep 17	
Virginia	no procedure	(es) 14,500	can't start	can't start	can't start	can't start	-	Aug 21	
Washington	no procedure	200	can't start	can't start	can't start	can't start	-	Jul 25	
West Va.	no procedure	6,534	0	0	0	0	-	Aug 1	
Wisconsin	10,000	2,000	already on	can't start	can't start	can't start	Jun 1	Sep 1	
Wyoming	8,000	7,903	*5,800	0	0	0	May 1	Aug 25	

LIBT is Libertarian; NAP is New Alliance; ENVIR is Green, except in Oregon where it means the Pacific Party. Other qualified nationally-organized parties are American in S. C., Prohibition in N. M., Socialist Workers in N. M., and Workers World in Michigan and N.M. "FULL PARTY REQ." means a procedure by which a new party can qualify itself before it knows who its candidates are. Not every state has such a procedure. "CANDIDATE REQ." means a procedure whereby a petition names a particular candidate (some of these procedures permit a party label). Asterisk means the entry has changed since the last issue.

LABOR PARTY ADVOCATES

Tony Mazzocchi, Secretary-Treasurer of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers union, has formed Labor Party Advocates, for the purpose of persuading the public that there should be a Labor Party in the U.S. Membership is \$20 per year. The address is Bx 1510, Highland Park, N.J. 08904, tel. (609) 561- 6259.

FREE ELECTION RETURNS BOOK

The Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives has published *Statistics of the Congressional Election of Nov. 6, 1990*. Anyone may obtain a free copy by requesting one from the Clerk, Rm. H105, Capitol, Washington DC 20515. The Clerk has been publishing election returns for each congressional and presidential election, since the 1920's. The book also contains a national summary of the vote for each party, for the Senate, and the House. The 1990 summary shows that there were 62,354,853 votes cast for the House, including 2,555,085 votes not cast for the Democratic or Republican nominees. This figure is somewhat misleading, however; it includes the number of voters in New York and Massachusetts who went to the polls and didn't vote for anyone for U.S. House, but it doesn't include such data for any other state.

C-SPAN TO AIR LIBERTARIAN MEET

C-SPAN, the television network established to broadcast coverage of Congress, has announced that it will carry gavel-to-gavel coverage of the Libertarian Party National Convention, scheduled for August 29-September 1, 1991. C-SPAN is mentioning this coverage in its advertising. For example, C-SPAN's full-page back cover ad in the June 10 *New Republic* says, "That's not to say that C-SPAN *Election '92* telecasts will be just the big names from the major parties. Our network offers detailed views of third party candidates, as well. This summer, for example, C-SPAN travels to Chicago as the Libertarian Party nominates its candidate for the White House."

[] RENEWALS: If this block is marked, your subscription is about to expire. Please renew. Post office rules do not permit inserts in second class publications, so no envelope is enclosed. Use the coupon below.

BALLOT ACCESS IN RUSSIA

On June 12, the Russian Federated Republic held a presidential election, with six candidates on the ballot. The law required a presidential candidate to submit 100,000 signatures to get on the ballot, or to have the support of 20% of the People's Deputies (the Republic's legislative body). That contrasts with laws in the U.S., which require a non-Democratic, non-Republican presidential candidate to collect almost 700,000 valid signatures. The population of the United States is 255,000,000; the population of the Russian Republic is 155,000,000.

Five Russian candidates qualified by petition, and one by support from the legislative body. Nikolai Ryzhkov, Communist Party candidate, submitted the most signatures (almost 600,000) but Boris Yeltsin, candidate of the Democratic Party, won the election. The Libertarian Party of Russia named a candidate, Roman Kalinin, but did not attempt to get on the ballot.

N.O.W. COMMISSION

The Commission for a Responsive Democracy will hold its final hearing in Washington, D.C., but the date still hasn't been chosen. The Commission's schedule was thrown awry when N.O.W. president Molly Yard suffered a stroke during May (Yard presides over all Commission hearings). Although she has now recovered, N.O.W.'s own national convention in July has made it difficult for the Commission to schedule its final hearing.

POPULIST PARTY

The Populist Party believes that Bo Gritz will accept its presidential nomination. No date has been set for the party's convention. Gritz is fairly well-known for his attempts to expose CIA complicity in the drug-running trade in Laos. He had been nominated for vice-president by the Populist Party in 1988, but then had changed his mind and run for Congress as a Republican instead. He lost the Nevada Republican primary by only 1,384 votes.

SECOND CLASS PAID AT SAN FRANCISCO CA

[] I want to receive **BALLOT ACCESS NEWS**.
I enclose \$6.00 for 1 year (overseas: \$10)
Make check out to "Ballot Access News".

To receive it by First Class Mail, enclose \$8.00

[] I want to join COFOE. Enclosed is \$_____
(includes one-year subscription to this newsletter, or one-year renewal).
Make check out to "COFOE". Minimum dues are \$10.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____