



FLORIDA'S WRITE-IN LOOPHOLE: THE RESEARCH

SINCE 1998, OVER 8 MILLION
FLORIDIANS DISENFRANCHISED
BY PARTISAN FRAUD

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS


HIGHLIGHTS

FROM OUR FINDINGS

Every election cycle the Florida press reports on races where the write-in loophole was used to shut out voters. But no one has ever looked at the scale of these abuses. Until now.

We took a deep dive into the largest ongoing act of voter suppression in the state of Florida—studying races for Congress and state legislature over the 25 year period that the Universal Primary Amendment has been in place.

What we found was shocking.

- A total of 114 races—from 1998 to 2022— that should have been open to all voters were closed by write-in candidates.
 - Republicans were shut out of 47 of these races, while Democrats were shut out of 67 races. Independent voters were shut out of all 114 primary races.
 - A total of 8,204,603 voters were disenfranchised by the application of the write-in loophole.
 - The issue is not one-sided—1,297,802 Republicans, 3,217,279 Democrats, and 3,689,522 independent voters were shut out of these primary elections.
 - This is happening all over the state of Florida. Races where one party had a sizable registration advantage, races where the parties were at parity but one party failed to recruit a candidate and everything in between were implicated.
 - Both Democrats and Republicans are abusing the write-in loophole and shutting out millions of voters in the process.
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How legitimate are these write-in candidates? Decide for yourself.

- 114 of the 137 write-in candidates studied spent \$0 on their campaigns.
- At least 104 of these candidates had no campaign staff, listing themselves as their own campaign treasurer for example.
- Over a dozen of these candidates-and possibly more- filed from outside the district they were running in.

How extensive is this corruption? How many other races-from statewide offices, to county commissioners, to city council and more-have been affected?

Our research raises more questions than answers and we hope it can serve as the foundation for more extensive inquiries.

One thing, though, is clear. We must close the write-in loophole permanently if we are to protect voters, democracy and the rule of law in Florida.

Read [FULL RESEARCH](#)

