



LEGISLATIVE LANGUAGE TO CLOSE THE WRITE-IN LOOPHOLE

Legislative language to close the write-in-loophole already exists. It was developed and introduced in 2017 by Republican Commissioner Sherry Plymale into the Constitutional Revision Commission (CRC) process. It was fully vetted by the CRC and went far in the CRC process before eventually failing to make it to the ballot.

ARTICLE VI: SUFFRAGE AND ELECTIONS, Section 5. Primary, general, and special elections. SECTION 5.Primary, general, and special elections.

1. A general election shall be held in each county on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of each even-numbered year to choose a successor to each elective state and county officer whose term will expire before the next general election and, except as provided herein, to fill each vacancy in elective office for the unexpired portion of the term. A general election may be suspended or delayed due to a state of emergency or impending emergency pursuant to general law. Special elections and referenda shall be held as provided by law.
2. If all candidates for an office have the same party affiliation and the winner will have either no opposition in the general election, or opposition only from one or more write-in candidates, then all qualified electors, regardless of party affiliation, may vote in the primary elections for that office.