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New Poll Finds Florida NPAs and Democrats Strongly in Favor of the Democratic Party Opening its Primary

Glen Cove Springs, FL –Political parties have the legal right to open their primaries to NPAs, and Democratic Party Chair Nikki Fried has been publicly debating the idea for months. That's because there are 3.4 million NPAs shut out of primary elections due to Florida's closed primaries. Now a new poll of Florida NPAs and Democrats finds not only overwhelming support for such a move but broad support for primary reform generally.

[The poll](#), conducted by Florida Open Primaries in conjunction with national election reform group Open Primaries and its Let Us Vote campaign, asked 1,310 Florida voters (684 NPA voters and 626 Democrats) their views on several key aspects of the Florida's closed primary and the Democratic Party's debate on opening their primary.

Key Findings:

- **96% of NPAs and 93% of Democrats** support a move to open all Florida primary elections to NPA voters.
- **80% of NPAs and 87% of Democrats** support the Democratic Party unilaterally opening its primary.
- **87% of NPAs and 83% of Democrats** support the Democratic Party adopting a broader set of activities in support of primary reform including legislation and acknowledgement of past efforts at opposing primary reform and shutting out NPA voters.

[Full Poll Results can be found HERE](#)

Florida Open Primaries leaders are trumpeting the poll:

"These poll results confirm that NPAs voting in the Florida Democratic primary would be a "win-win" for both NPAs and the Democratic Party. The 3.4 million Florida NPAs would be able to vote in some of the most consequential elections -- elections paid for by their hard-earned tax dollars. The Democratic Party



would have 3.4 million additional voters preferentially informed and engaged with Democratic candidates." -- John Marvin (NPA)

"I am a Florida Democrat and have been active locally for 15 years. Closed primaries are unfair to independent voters who comprise about one-third of Florida voters. They pay for primary elections but can't vote. The Democratic Party should open its primaries so that all voters can have a voice in choosing their elected leaders. Democrats and independents are aligned-an open primary will make the Democratic Party stronger." Lenny Guckenheimer (D)

Cathy Stewart, Open Primaries National Organizing Director added:

"Florida is one of only 14 states that bar independent voters from the primaries- that means that 3.4 million voters are denied the right to vote in taxpayer funded elections, As the polling results demonstrate -- NPA voters and Democratic Party voters agree that the time has come for the Florida Democratic Party to act to open their primaries."

Available for interview:

- John Marvin, Florida Open Primaries (NPA) (Tierra Verde, FL)
- Lenny Guckenheimer, Florida Open Primaries (D) (Gulfport, FL)
- Cathy Stewart, Open Primaries National Organizing Director (New York, NY))

[Florida Open Primaries](#) is a movement of Florida Republicans, Democrats and independents working to let all voters vote in primary elections. [Open Primaries](#) is a national, nonprofit organization and its [Let Us Vote](#) campaign is dedicated to organizing and empowering independent voters across the country,