



ATTENTION: PERSONS VOTING IN THE 2012 REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

Write-in Votes

The Code of Virginia, Section 24.2-529, specifically prohibits write-in votes in all primary elections conducted in Virginia. No ballot issued during the Republican Primary on March 6, 2012 will contain an area where a write-in name may be entered. In the case of electronic voting equipment, the option for a write-in vote has been disabled. In the case of paper ballots, if a name is written in a blank area on a ballot, or a name is scratched through and another is inserted, it will not register as a vote. ***In no way will defacement of an official ballot be tallied as a vote for any person other than those candidates currently listed.***

Candidate Qualification

Only those candidates who have satisfied all the candidate qualification requirements as established in the Code of Virginia, § 24.2-545, are entitled to have their names appear on the Presidential Primary ballot. Virginia law requires that any person appearing on a party's presidential primary ballot receive signatures from at least 10,000 Virginians who are registered to vote with a minimum of 400 signatures required from each of Virginia's 11 congressional districts. The Virginia State Board of Elections required that these signatures be placed on official petitions which were circulated by Virginia residents, and that these petitions be filed with the State Board by December 22, 2011. The political parties in Virginia are responsible for the counting of those petition signatures and the state Republican Party certified to SBE that only two candidates met the requirements for ballot access: Ron Paul and Mitt Romney.

Questions or Comments?

Please contact the Virginia State Board of Elections at 1-800-552-9745 if you have any questions regarding these issues.