

Parties, Candidates, and Primaries

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What's democratic? (small “d”)

About Ranked-Choice Voting:


The Failure of Instant Runoff Voting...

... to accomplish
the very purpose for
which it was adopted:
An object lesson in
Burlington Vermont

The submitted paper:

[https://drive.google.com/
file/d/1jlhFQfEoxSdyRz5SqEjZ
otbVDx4xshwM/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1jlhFQfEoxSdyRz5SqEjZotbVDx4xshwM/view)

Constitutional Political Economy
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ORIGINAL PAPER



The failure of Instant Runoff to accomplish the purpose for which it was adopted: a case study from Burlington Vermont

Robert Bristow-Johnson¹

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Abstract

Instant-Runoff Voting (IRV) has been marketed to “guarantee that the majority candidate is elected,” to “eliminate the spoiler effect,” and to empower voters, particularly those supporting third-party or independent candidates, to “vote your hopes, not your fears,” which is meant to level the playing field between such candidates and those from the major-party duopoly. This paper shows that in Burlington Vermont, IRV has failed to do this and has instead created a new problem. However, this failure is

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Voters are not voting for specific delegates.

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Same mathematical problem as apportioning U.S. Representatives.

Huntington-Hill method

About Parties:

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First Amendment guarantees us:

Freedom of Speech

Freedom of Association (or “assembly”).

Corporations

Trade Unions

Political Parties

Corporations
Trade Unions
Political Parties



Private organizations
but
Government has a role

Political Parties

Political Parties

Government administers primaries

Political Parties

Government administers primaries

Voters decide (not smoke-filled back room)

OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE CANVASSING COMMITTEE
UNITED STATES AND VERMONT STATEWIDE OFFICES
PRIMARY ELECTION, AUGUST 13, 2024

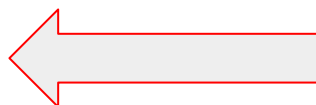
VOTING STATISTICS

1	Registered Voters	507,023
2	Votes cast, Democratic Party	51,969
3	Votes cast, Progressive Party	414
4	Votes cast, Republican Party	24,985
5	Absentee votes counted	23,321
6	Total votes counted	77,368

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Suggest:

1. Party-affiliated candidates or Independent candidates or Fusion candidates must not be officially advantaged or disadvantaged by the state.

Suggest:

2. Ballot access for candidates must be exactly the same, whether the candidate is affiliated with a party or not. If a candidate gets enough signatures on the petition, they're on the ballot.

Suggest:

3. If, and only if, a candidate runs in and wins a party primary, should they be shown as that party nominee on the general election ballot.

Suggest:

4. A party executive committee should be able to name a replacement candidate only if the primary-nominated candidate dies or is medically incapacitated. ***Candidate withdrawal alone is not enough.***

Suggest:

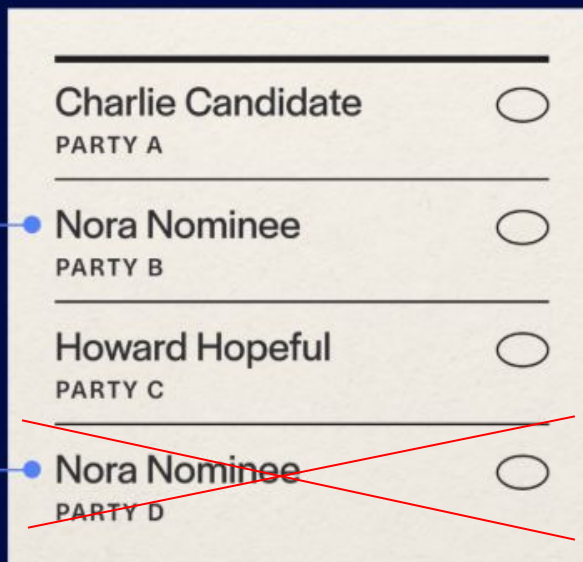
5. Individual candidates should be allowed to run simultaneously in multiple party primaries for the same office. This is the legitimate manner in which fusion candidates can credibly place the party label by their names on the general election ballot.

MORE CHOICES ON THE BALLOT

How Fusion Voting Works

1

Multiple parties can nominate the same candidate, allowing voters to choose the party that best matches their values.



2

The totals of each party line are added to determine the winner.

NOMINEE

3

- ✓ Voters get more viable choices.
- ✓ Minor parties have a more central and constructive role.

