

Subject: 3rd Party/independent ballot access relief
From: Sarah Dillon <dillon2thcc@gmail.com>
Date: 5/21/20, 2:07 AM
To: eholcomb@gov.in.gov
CC: "King, Brad" <bking@iec.in.gov>, constituent@sos.in.gov, elections@iec.in.gov, Senator.Ford@iga.in.gov

Governor Holcomb, et al,

Here's giving you many well wishes in this very trying times in our state's history during this COVID19 pandemic.

Today, I'm writing this email, asking for some relief for those willing to run for the November 3, 2020 as either minor party or as independents.

First off, a little bit about myself. My name is Sarah Dillon. I live in Terre Haute, Indiana. I've writing this not only as an active member [for the better part of 15 years] of the Indiana Green Party that's participated in at least 6 other petition drives [including twice for Indiana Secretary of State and once for US House District 8], but also a former candidate for the Common Council of Terre Haute who successfully got on the ballot TWICE [first as an independent in 2015, then as a Green in 2019] and missed the ballot once in 2007.

In my experience, **under normal circumstances**, I find gathering signatures a worthwhile experience. Yes, it can be humbling at times when someone doesn't sign your petition or it doesn't get certified at the county clerk's office, but those gets negated by the personal interaction with the general public and the telling of one's vision of our various communities to that same public at events, going door-to-door, etc.

However, as you may have noticed, with this time of social distancing and cancellations of events before the June 30th deadline, we're not even close to facing normal circumstances. Here's a few suggestions on how to help:

- Dramatically lower petition signature requirements and/or – similar to the upcoming June 2 primary – moving the deadline to later this summer
- Grant automatic ballot access to candidates running as minor party or independent; or
- Replace ballot access petitioning with a reasonable candidate filing fee

Thank you very much for considering my concern and taking action so that democracy can continue while we get through this crisis.

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former Green Party candidate, Terre Haute City Council candidate [2015 and 2019]

[P.S. This is being CCed to the following people: IN Secretary of State Connie Lawson; Brad King and Paul Okeson of the Indiana Election Division; State Senator Jon Ford [District 38]; State Representative Tonya Pfaff [District 43]; Indiana Green Party Coordinating Committee.]