

SWING VOTE SAM EXPLAINS

Everyone Else Pays

SAM SAYS

"The two parties gather zero signatures. Their nominees are simply placed there."

The two major parties' nominees appear on the ballot automatically. Everyone else petitions their way on, one state at a time.

In 2024, an independent needed roughly 900,000 signatures to reach every state's presidential ballot, at five to twelve dollars a signature. California alone wanted 219,403.

Call it a toll booth with an exemption for two cars. Lowering it doesn't tell anyone how to vote. It puts more names on the ballot.

The facts

1. An independent presidential candidate needed roughly 900,000 valid signatures to reach every state's ballot in 2024, at an estimated five to twelve dollars per signature (Ballot Access News).[1]
2. California's 2024 petition requirement for an independent presidential candidate was 219,403 signatures.[2]
3. Nominees of qualified parties are placed on the ballot without a petition; independents and new parties must qualify by petition under each state's rules.[1]

What you can do

1. Ask your state or local election office what it takes for an independent to get on your ballot. **usa.gov/state-election-office**
2. If an independent or new-party candidate is collecting signatures where you live, you can sign to let them on the ballot without promising your vote.
3. Show up.

Scan to watch Sam explain it
swingvotesam.com/issues/ballot-access

Sources

1. NBC News, "RFK Jr. super PAC to spend $10 million-plus to get on key state ballots (estimate by Richard Winger, Ballot Access News)", December 5, 2023. https://www.nbcnews.com/meet-the-press/meetthepressblog/rfk-jr-super-pac-spend-10-million-get-key-state-ballots-rcna128093
2. Ballot Access News, "California independent presidential petition will be 219,403 signatures in 2024", November 6, 2022. https://ballot-access.org/2022/11/06/california-independent-presidential-petition-will-be-219403-signatures-in-2024/

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