

THE
WATCHDAWG
REPORT

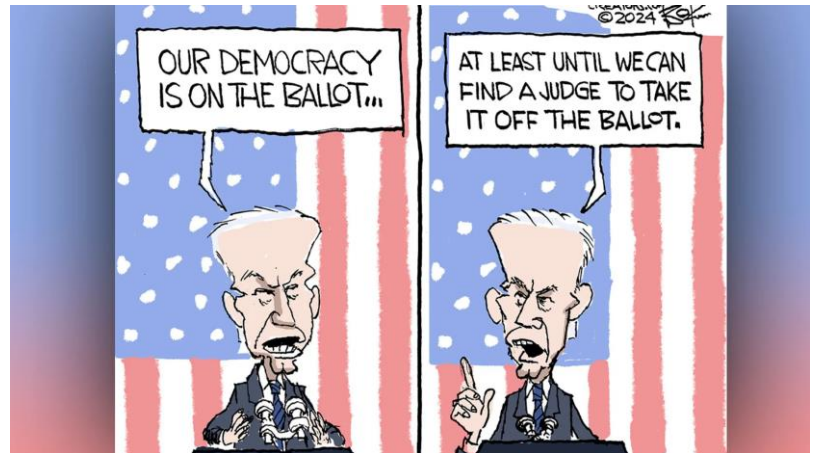
Missouri Initiative Petition

There has been a lot of attention on proposed reforms to Missouri's Initiative Petition Law. I thought it might be helpful to sort that out a bit this month.

Our best, most recent example of how the existing law can be manipulated against Missourians was the marijuana bill that passed on the ballot last year. The bill that passed was strongly objected to by even the pot lobbyists in Jefferson City because it was all about putting control of the market in the hands of the government, the medical marijuana cartel and keeping Missouri's local growers and sellers out of the picture. Big business and big pharma strike again...it was a shame.

Here at the lake, we were inundated with smiling young adults holding the clipboard and encouraging everyone to sign their petition. The words of the petition itself were hidden on the back of the signature sheet in tiny print that was impossible to read. The charming youngsters shamelessly misrepresented what was on the petition. I personally watched a young man tell an elderly veteran that if he was against marijuana, he needed to sign the petition. Those gathering the signatures were paid almost \$30 per hour plus over \$5 per signature. They had zero integrity, and certainly no respect for the older people they gleefully took advantage of. As a result of their work, the marijuana bill was put on the ballot and passed with a simple majority.

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Camden County Voters

Here in good ole Camden County it has become very easy to be complacent and know that reasonably reliable Republicans will be elected no matter how few people vote...STOP IT!
Your country needs you to vote in 2024.

Will Donald Trump be the presumed Republican nominee prior to the Missouri March 2nd Republican Caucus...probably...come to the Caucus and cast your vote for him anyway. Connect with other supporters in the area. Volunteer to campaign or be a delegate to the conventions.

Missouri has an opportunity to stand up as a leading Conservative state by coming out strong for Trump, and electing Senator Bill Eigel as governor. If you support America First, these are your candidates. Be loud and proud and make the most of this election year.

February 15 at 6:00 PM – Pre-caucus “how it works” meeting in the Public Meeting room on the 3rd floor at the courthouse on the Camdenton Square.

March 2 – THE CAUCUS – at the Camdenton Middle School gym. Doors open at 8:00 am. Doors close at 10:00 am. Those in line at 10 will be admitted.

The marijuana amendment passed 53.11% (1,089,326 votes) to 46.89% (961,909 votes). It passed via a simple majority of voters in Missouri. Most in favor were from Kansas City, St. Louis and Springfield.

The about-to-be-debated proposal to change to the law covering initiative petitions in the Missouri Senate would raise the bar for approval of amendments to the Missouri Constitution by requiring a concurrent majority to pass. With the requirement of a concurrent majority as opposed to a simple majority, a proposed amendment must be supported by a majority of 82 Missouri House districts, the same number it takes to pass a bill in the 163-member chamber.

With a concurrent majority, changes to the Missouri Constitution would require broad support to win at the polls instead of concentrated support in the most populated parts of the state. The concept is similar to the electoral college by assuring that rural voters are equally considered when voting on Missouri's constitutional amendments.

Missourians are worried that the same out-of-state money and conniving that brought us a poorly formulated marijuana bill will bring unlimited abortion to the ballot in November 2024. There are two ways you can fight against legalized abortion becoming part of the Missouri Constitution:

- 1. Contact your State Representative Lisa Thomas, and State Senator Mike Bernskoetter and tell them you want them to vote in favor of changes to the initiative petition process that will change the law to require a concurrent majority, as opposed to a simple majority.**
2. Do not sign any petition you have not carefully read. You cannot trust the person handing you the pen to honestly tell you what it says. Just say no and walk away is the simplest way to do the right thing. It is highly likely that a petition in favor of putting legal, unlimited abortion on the Missouri ballot in November as an amendment to our Constitution will be presented to you this summer. If it passes, the General Assembly alone cannot remove it because it is an amendment to the Constitution, not a law put in place via legislation.

Evil people are exploiting Missouri's existing initiative petition law to install awful things into our state constitution that God-fearing intelligent people do not want. You can help stop it.

Representative Lisa Thomas – 573-751-1119

Senator Mike Bernskoetter – 573-751-2076

The Presidential Candidate favored by Camden County Republicans will be chosen March 2nd at the Caucus. There will not be Presidential Candidates listed on the August Primary Ballot in the state of Missouri. Republican Platform amendments should be submitted at the Caucus meeting. Let me know if you need the specific guidelines to submit. The platform proposed by the State Republican Committee is not yet available. I will forward it to the Watchdawg Report distribution list when available. Please join me at the Caucus. Bring your ID and voter registration card. The county clerk's office advises they are mailing out new voter ID cards for 2024 in February. If you do not have yours soon, please call the County Clerk's Office.

At the Caucus, slates of delegates will be chosen to attend the Congressional District Convention and the Missouri State Convention. From those gatherings, delegates to the Republican National Convention will be chosen. If you care and have the skills, please consider volunteering as a delegate from our county. We have a pool of retired professionals here that should produce an amazing and articulate slate of delegates...I hope many of you will consider volunteering. Minimally, we need 7 delegates and 7 alternates to attend both conventions. Maximum would be two separate slates (7 and 7) for each of the Conventions. You can let me know ahead of time if you want to volunteer. As a Committee Member, I am making a list to prepare for the Caucus. If we can get a list together soon enough, we can get our slate of delegates endorsed by President Trump per a recent conversation with his Senior Campaign Advisor in Missouri. Please get on the list early so we can request that honor.

Candidates for Camden County offices are beginning to declare. The Republican Primary is August 6th. The General Election is November 5th. Republican candidates should notify John Beckett (573-216-2616) or Jim Heppler (573-286-6562) to file with the Camden County Republican Central Committee. Filing fees go to the Committee Treasurer, and the candidate receives a receipt to present to the County Clerk to confirm their name appears on the ballot. Candidates can volunteer to be vetted by the Camden County Republican Central Committee. When they successfully pass background checks, complete a Republican Values Survey and sign the Republican Platform pledge, they enjoy the stamp of approval by the Committee, and will have a space to engage with voters at our Reagan Days event in April.

I was pleased that Jeff Verneti, candidate for District 123 State Representative has declared his candidacy with proud mention of being fully vetted by our committee. He is impressive. I hope you will come to Reagan Days at Margaritaville on April 20th to meet him and attend events during his campaign.

Details about the March 2nd Republican Caucus are available in the January 2024 Watchdawg Report. You can find it at www.watchdawgreport.com, or email me at contact@watchdawgreport.com and I'll send you a copy.

Both **District 1 and District 2 County Commissioners** will be elected this year. Hopefully, there will be a good slate of Republican candidates available to choose from. If you are interested in the job of county commissioner or other office, we need to get you filed before March 26th. Call John or Jim (numbers above) anytime to get information on filing and vetting. We need Commissioners with a professional demeanor in the courthouse who understand business processes. The job pays fairly well for this area, and I hope talented people will be willing to come forward. The requirements are that you be a resident of the county, the district you are running in, and a registered voter. If you wish to have a successful campaign...prepare to knock on doors.

Other county offices that will appear on the August Primary Ballot:

County Sheriff – there is a raft of candidates coming forward. Pay attention. Go to events for all. Get information, check background and social media, choose carefully. Requirements are that candidates must be a resident for more than 1 year before filing, resident taxpayer and registered voter, No felony convictions. Must have a valid peace officer license. Licensing is regulated by the Peace Officer Standards and Training Program within the Missouri Department of Public Safety.

County Assessor – manages staff that places value on all real and personal property for tax purposes, and maintains, keeps and gather all property records

County Treasurer – the Treasurer must present proof of approval from a surety company indicating they are bonded. They manage staff the handles the county's bank accounts.

Public Administrator – implements programs to serve the public, liaison with citizens seeking public assistance

Coroner – primary function is to investigate any death thought to be of other than natural causes

Surveyor – administers the county land survey records, re-establish and maintain the official government survey monuments, and review property boundaries surveys and subdivision plans

Republican Central Committee – each township elects one male and one female to participate on the Central Committee. Current leadership works hard to promote conservative legislation in Jefferson City (appreciated) and established candidate vetting (really appreciated).

Unfortunately, almost all committee members lack the least bit of enthusiasm for the groundwork of registering Republican voters and getting folks to the polls. Most constituents do not even know they are represented by individuals on the Committee because they never hear from them. I hope motivated America First enthusiasts will run for this committee in 2024 as the RNC transforms from the grass roots up to be more vital in all US counties.

To receive The Watchdawg Report free via email every month, contact me (Jennie) at Contact@watchdawgreport.com, or call 660-238-6514 and leave a message. All past issues are available at www.watchdawgreport.com. If you would like to see the print version continued, please ask about donating to help cover costs. A little goes a long way.