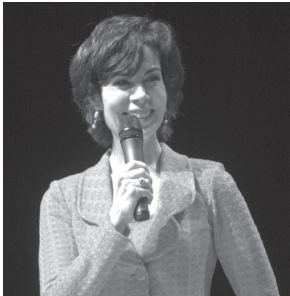


Americans Want to End Partisanship, Not Promote It!

An Open Letter to the People of Hawaii with
a Special Postscript to President Barack Obama



Jacqueline Salit, President,
IndependentVoting.org

I write to you from the national headquarters of **IndependentVoting.org**, a 50-state movement of **independent voters**—the 40% who do not want to be in a political party, but want to be fully included in our democracy.

The federal lawsuit brought by Hawaii’s Democratic Party to close primary elections is an undemocratic turn of events, especially in a state whose constitution states: “No person shall be required to declare a party preference or nonpartisanship as a condition of voting in any primary...”

Sadly, **it is all too common for politicians to sacrifice democracy in pursuit of partisan goals**. This is what the Democratic Party of Hawaii is doing by asking the court to close your primaries and require party registration, ending political privacy. And taxpayers would pay for restricted primaries, even if they are barred from voting in them.

Our movement has fought for open primaries across the country. We have asked local Democratic Parties to coalesce with us on this important issue. Some have, others haven’t. In Hawaii, the party is divided as Governor Abercrombie and other Democratic elected officials say they support open primaries, even as their political party is suing to close them.

We have also asked President Obama to stand with us on democracy for independents. Independents gave him the majority in open Democratic primaries and caucuses in 2008 across the country and helped him eclipse the party’s old guard. The President has yet to speak out to defend the rights of independents. We hope he does!

Please join us in calling on the Democratic Party of Hawaii to withdraw its lawsuit. **Americans want to end partisanship, not promote it!** Sign on to our letter by going to our website, IndependentVoting.org or by calling us at 1-800-288-3201.

Jacqueline Salit
President, IndependentVoting.org

P.S. Mr. President, **TEAR DOWN THE WALL** that your party is erecting against independent voters.

