

and lawfully participate in exerting influence on the government.

Section 4g has alternative versions A and B to choose between:

Section 4 g. Version A: Protect Missouri’s open primary system. Currently Missouri and about half the other US states allow for open primaries. This means that citizens do not need to be registered with that political party in order to choose to vote in their primary. This system allows people to change their political views over time instead of forcing people to always vote along party lines.

Section 4 g. Version B: Allow political parties to select candidates in the way they choose. Parties with ballot status should be able to select candidates by a primary, convention or caucus system.

4h. Use proportional electoral college votes. Currently Missouri and all but two US states use a winner-take-all system for the electoral college votes when deciding the US president. This means that only 51% of Missouri voters can decide who earns Missouri’s electoral votes while the other 49% of Missouri citizens are ignored. The winner-take-all system also creates the scenario where the candidate who receives less of the popular vote nationwide can lose the election. Allotting electoral college votes according to the percentage of popular votes received would make the process of electing the president more representative (See Appendix A.)

4i. Use paper ballots with an auditing system to ensure legitimacy. Some states have already begun to prohibit ballotless electronic voting machines because they have been shown to be inaccurate.

Section 4j has alternative versions A and B to choose between. The only difference is in the introductory statement and sub-subsections i., ii., iii., and iv. are the same for both:

Section 4j. Version A: District lines. The MOGP recommends that Missouri create an independent nonpartisan commission using nonpartisan voter approved criteria where districts must:

Section 4j. Version B: District lines. The MOGP recommends that Missouri create a commission that includes all state electoral parties to ensure that the district lines are drawn fairly. Districts must:

- i. comply with the U.S. Constitution and the Voting Rights Act;
- ii. be contiguous so that all parts of the district are connected to each other;
- iii. respect the boundaries of cities, counties, and neighborhoods, as well as “communities of common interest” (such as keeping a rural population together); and,
- iv. promote political competition that does not favor or discriminate against any candidate (incumbent or challenger) or political party.

4k. Limit the amount of influence money has in our political system. Currently, large donors, political action committees, and other groups with large amount of money have enormous influence over elections and elected officials. The limitation would be accomplished by distributing all financial donations equally between candidates in the primary and general elections. This would preserve the right of corporations and the wealthy to generously contribute to electoral education without disproportionately influencing the electoral outcome. Transparency in government requires full disclosure of the source of financial contributions including the names of specific Institutional, corporate and personal donors.

4l. Lower the threshold of signatures needed to bring people’s concerns to the ballot and allow