

## IV. Primary Elections Consensus Questions

### Issue review

There are six options for primaries.

- i. In a closed primary (current Pennsylvania practice), voters may cast a ballot only for the political party of affiliation.
- ii. In an open primary, voters may select the party ballot of their choice for voting, regardless of political party affiliation.
- iii. In a semi-open primary, affiliated voters must vote in the primary of their registration. Unaffiliated voters may vote in either primary, but must publically announce their choice before voting and they may only vote in that party primary.
- iv. In a semi-closed primary, the parties shall decide whether to allow unaffiliated voters to vote in their primary.
- v. In a top two primary, voters receive ballots with all candidates for office, and they may vote for whomever they wish, without regard to party preference. Subsequently, the two candidates receiving the most votes appear on the ballot for the general election.
- vi. In a top four primary, voters receive ballots with all candidates for office, and they may vote for whomever they wish, without regard to party preference. Subsequently, in a top four primary, the four candidates receiving the most votes are on the ballot for the general election.

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1. LWVPA believes that changing the primary structure would increase voter participation.

1. Strongly disagree\_\_\_ 2. Disagree\_\_\_ 3. Neutral/no consensus\_\_\_ 4. Agree \_\_\_ 5. Strongly agree\_\_\_

2. LWVPA believes that changing the primary system could reduce political polarization.

1. Strongly disagree\_\_\_ 2. Disagree\_\_\_ 3. Neutral/no consensus\_\_\_ 4. Agree \_\_\_ 5. Strongly agree\_\_\_

3. LWVPA should take a position on open or closed primaries.

1. Strongly disagree\_\_\_ 2. Disagree\_\_\_ 3. Neutral/no consensus\_\_\_ 4. Agree \_\_\_ 5. Strongly agree\_\_\_

4. Please rank support for the following six primary options, with 5 indicating the strongest support and 0 indicating opposition or the least support.

a. LWVPA should support adoption of open primaries.

1. Strongly disagree\_\_\_ 2. Disagree\_\_\_ 3. Neutral/no consensus\_\_\_ 4. Agree \_\_\_ 5. Strongly agree\_\_\_

b. LWVPA should support adoption of semi open primaries.

1. Strongly disagree\_\_\_ 2. Disagree\_\_\_ 3. Neutral/no consensus\_\_\_ 4. Agree \_\_\_ 5. Strongly agree\_\_\_  
2.

c. LWVPA should support the current practice of closed primaries.

1. Strongly disagree\_\_\_ 2. Disagree\_\_\_ 3. Neutral/no consensus\_\_\_ 4. Agree \_\_\_ 5. Strongly agree\_\_\_

d. LWVPA should support adoption of semi-closed primaries.

1. Strongly disagree\_\_\_ 2. Disagree\_\_\_ 3. Neutral/no consensus\_\_\_ 4. Agree \_\_\_ 5. Strongly agree\_\_\_

e. LWVPA should support adoption of top two primaries.

1. Strongly disagree\_\_\_ 2. Disagree\_\_\_ 3. Neutral/no consensus\_\_\_ 4. Agree \_\_\_ 5. Strongly agree\_\_\_

f. LWVPA should support adoption of top four primaries.

1. Strongly disagree\_\_\_ 2. Disagree\_\_\_ 3. Neutral/no consensus\_\_\_ 4. Agree \_\_\_ 5. Strongly agree\_\_\_

5. LWVPA should adopt a different primary system for presidential vs. state/local races?

1. Strongly disagree\_\_\_ 2. Disagree\_\_\_ 3. Neutral/no consensus\_\_\_ 4. Agree \_\_\_ 5. Strongly agree\_\_\_

6. LWVPA believes that if primaries remain closed, they should not be publicly funded.

1. Strongly disagree\_\_\_ 2. Disagree\_\_\_ 3. Neutral/no consensus\_\_\_ 4. Agree \_\_\_ 5. Strongly agree\_\_\_