

HB 200 Open Primary Support Letters

Page	Name	Date
2	Pat Race	4/6/2017
3	Dawn Webster	4/7/2017
4	Karen Harvey	4/7/2017
5	Sheila Horton	4/6/2017
6	Gael Irvine	4/6/2017
7	Deborah Ross	4/6/2017
8	Allison Johnson	4/6/2017
9	Brandon Gchachuu	4/6/2017
10	Jim Shramek	4/6/2017
11	Will Everett	4/6/2017
12	Pamela Ann McDowell Saylor	4/6/2017
13	Kalyn Kratz	4/6/2017
14	Linda Rabideau	4/6/2017
15	Mary Jo Towne	4/6/2017
16	Diane Matchett	4/6/2017
17	Belinda Williams	4/6/2017
18	Ronald Holmstrom	4/6/2017
19	Stacey Fritz	4/6/2017
20	James Ingersoll	4/6/2017
21	Laurie Cartwright	4/6/2017
22	Julie McBrien	4/7/2017
23	Penny Gage	4/5/2017
24	S. Chad Peace, Independent Voter Project	4/7/2017

Representative LeDoux,

It has come to my attention that you are working on legislation that would change our system of primary voting. I strongly encourage your efforts. As you know, a majority of Alaskans are non-partisan or undeclared voters who do not receive the organizational and lobbying benefits of a political party and are not well served by partitioned primary elections.

I like the idea of open primaries. I think we can go a step further.

I've been looking into various voting methods and I think there's a case to be made for [scored voting](#) in an open primary coupled with a top-two general election.

Primary Election: Each primary candidate is scored by voters and the top two move on to the general election.

General Election: Head-to-head. This ballot would have two candidates and a write-in space. Each voter can choose one candidate.

Under this system a general election will more accurately represent the district. A more conservative district might have two Republicans facing off.

I believe this system also eliminates much of the academic criticism of ranked and scored voting (such as [Arrow's impossibility theorem](#)) as well as opening up primaries to party independent candidates.

Here's an example of a primary ballot with scored voting. It's a lot like a Yelp review or an Amazon rating, people will get it. There would be an additional spot for a write-in candidate.

All my best,
Pat Race
Juneau, AK

Re: I urge you to support HB 200

Dear Gabrielle LeDoux,

I am writing to express my support for the open primary bill HB 200 by Representative LeDoux. Since its founding, Alaska had an open primary. But it was taken away from us by a court ruling. That means that Alaskans can no longer vote for whoever they want in the primary. We have to pick a party ballot. Worse yet, these elections are paid for by the taxpayers. Segregating voters in public elections is wrong. Alaska is facing huge problems. We need big solutions. "Partisan politics as usual" is not going to get the job done. Bringing back an open primary would change all of that. It would give the people of Alaska the voice they need to make real change. I urge you to support HB 200 for the open primary. It's time to return voter freedom. Let all voters vote for whoever they want, in every round of the election. Thank you,

Sincerely,
Dawn Webster

5271 S. Tennyson Ct.
Wasilla, AK 99623
Constituent

Re: I urge you to support HB 200

Dear Gabrielle LeDoux,

I am writing to express my support for the open primary bill HB 200 by Representative LeDoux. Since its founding, Alaska had an open primary. But it was taken away from us by a court ruling. That means that Alaskans can no longer vote for whoever they want in the primary. We have to pick a party ballot. Worse yet, these elections are paid for by the taxpayers. Segregating voters in public elections is wrong. Alaska is facing huge problems. We need big solutions. "Partisan politics as usual" is not going to get the job done. Bringing back an open primary would change all of that. It would give the people of Alaska the voice they need to make real change. I urge you to support HB 200 for the open primary. It's time to return voter freedom. Let all voters vote for whoever they want, in every round of the election. Thank you,

Sincerely,
Karen Harvey

Po box 41
Talkeetna, AK 99676
Constituent

Dear Gabrielle LeDoux,

I am writing to express my support for the open primary bill HB 200 by Representative LeDoux. Since its founding, Alaska had an open primary. But it was taken away from us by a court ruling. That means that Alaskans can no longer vote for whoever they want in the primary. We have to pick a party ballot. Worse yet, these elections are paid for by the taxpayers. Segregating voters in public elections is wrong. Alaska is facing huge problems. We need big solutions. "Partisan politics as usual" is not going to get the job done. Bringing back an open primary would change all of that. It would give the people of Alaska the voice they need to make real change. I urge you to support HB 200 for the open primary. It's time to return voter freedom. Let all voters vote for whoever they want, in every round of the election. Thank you,

Sincerely,
Sheila Horton

24337 Rambler Rd.
Chugiak, AK 99567
Constituent

Dear Gabrielle LeDoux,

I am writing to express my support for the open primary bill HB 200 by Representative LeDoux. Since its founding, Alaska had an open primary. But it was taken away from us by a court ruling. That means that Alaskans can no longer vote for whoever they want in the primary. We have to pick a party ballot. Worse yet, these elections are paid for by the taxpayers. Segregating voters in public elections is wrong. Alaska is facing huge problems. We need big solutions. "Partisan politics as usual" is not going to get the job done. Bringing back an open primary would change all of that. It would give the people of Alaska the voice they need to make real change. I urge you to support HB 200 for the open primary. It's time to return voter freedom. Let all voters vote for whoever they want, in every round of the election. Thank you,

Sincerely,
Gael irvine

8220 E Edgerton Parks Rd
Palmer, AK 99645
Constituent

Re: I urge you to support HB 200

Dear Gabrielle LeDoux,

I am writing to express my support for the open primary bill HB 200 by Representative LeDoux. Since its founding, Alaska had an open primary. But it was taken away from us by a court ruling. That means that Alaskans can no longer vote for whoever they want in the primary. We have to pick a party ballot. Worse yet, these elections are paid for by the taxpayers. Segregating voters in public elections is wrong. Alaska is facing huge problems. We need big solutions. "Partisan politics as usual" is not going to get the job done. Bringing back an open primary would change all of that. It would give the people of Alaska the voice they need to make real change. I urge you to support HB 200 for the open primary. It's time to return voter freedom. Let all voters vote for whoever they want, in every round of the election. Thank you,

Sincerely,
Deborah Ross

PO Box 19376
Thorne Bay, AK 99919
Constituent

Re: I urge you to support HB 200

Dear Gabrielle LeDoux,

I am writing to express my support for the open primary bill HB 200 by Representative LeDoux. Since its founding, Alaska had an open primary. But it was taken away from us by a court ruling. That means that Alaskans can no longer vote for whoever they want in the primary. We have to pick a party ballot. Worse yet, these elections are paid for by the taxpayers. Segregating voters in public elections is wrong. Alaska is facing huge problems. We need big solutions. "Partisan politics as usual" is not going to get the job done. Bringing back an open primary would change all of that. It would give the people of Alaska the voice they need to make real change. I urge you to support HB 200 for the open primary. It's time to return voter freedom. Let all voters vote for whoever they want, in every round of the election. Thank you,

Sincerely,
Allison Johnson

1046 Dogwood St #13
fairbanks, AK 99709
Constituent

Re: I urge you to support HB 200

Dear Gabrielle LeDoux,

I am writing to express my support for the open primary bill HB 200 by Representative LeDoux. Since its founding, Alaska had an open primary. But it was taken away from us by a court ruling. That means that Alaskans can no longer vote for whoever they want in the primary. We have to pick a party ballot. Worse yet, these elections are paid for by the taxpayers. Segregating voters in public elections is wrong. Alaska is facing huge problems. We need big solutions. "Partisan politics as usual" is not going to get the job done. Bringing back an open primary would change all of that. It would give the people of Alaska the voice they need to make real change. I urge you to support HB 200 for the open primary. It's time to return voter freedom. Let all voters vote for whoever they want, in every round of the election. Thank you,

Sincerely,
Brandon gchachuu

528 North Valley Rd, Apt B
Anchorage, AK 99504
Constituent

Re: I urge you to support HB 200

Dear Gabrielle LeDoux,

I am writing to express my support for the open primary bill HB 200 by Representative LeDoux. Since its founding, Alaska had an open primary. But it was taken away from us by a court ruling. That means that Alaskans can no longer vote for whoever they want in the primary. We have to pick a party ballot. Worse yet, these elections are paid for by the taxpayers. Segregating voters in public elections is wrong. Alaska is facing huge problems. We need big solutions. "Partisan politics as usual" is not going to get the job done. Bringing back an open primary would change all of that. It would give the people of Alaska the voice they need to make real change. I urge you to support HB 200 for the open primary. It's time to return voter freedom. Let all voters vote for whoever they want, in every round of the election. Thank you,

Sincerely,
Jim Schramek

PO box 745, 1210 Wrangell Ave
Petersburg, AK 99833
Constituent

Re: I urge you to support HB 200

Dear Gabrielle LeDoux,

I am writing to express my support for the open primary bill HB 200 by Representative LeDoux. Since its founding, Alaska had an open primary. But it was taken away from us by a court ruling. That means that Alaskans can no longer vote for whoever they want in the primary. We have to pick a party ballot. Worse yet, these elections are paid for by the taxpayers. Segregating voters in public elections is wrong. Alaska is facing huge problems. We need big solutions. "Partisan politics as usual" is not going to get the job done. Bringing back an open primary would change all of that. It would give the people of Alaska the voice they need to make real change. I urge you to support HB 200 for the open primary. It's time to return voter freedom. Let all voters vote for whoever they want, in every round of the election. Thank you,

Sincerely,
Will Everett

1055 W 27th Ave
Anchorage, AK 99503
Constituent

Re: I urge you to support HB 200

Dear Gabrielle LeDoux,

I am writing to express my support for the open primary bill HB 200 by Representative LeDoux. Since its founding, Alaska had an open primary. But it was taken away from us by a court ruling. That means that Alaskans can no longer vote for whoever they want in the primary. We have to pick a party ballot. Worse yet, these elections are paid for by the taxpayers. Segregating voters in public elections is wrong. Alaska is facing huge problems. We need big solutions. "Partisan politics as usual" is not going to get the job done. Bringing back an open primary would change all of that. It would give the people of Alaska the voice they need to make real change. I urge you to support HB 200 for the open primary. It's time to return voter freedom. Let all voters vote for whoever they want, in every round of the election. Thank you,

Sincerely,
Pamela Ann McDowell Saylor

1534 K St
Anchorage, AK 99501
Constituent

Re: I urge you to support HB 200

Dear Gabrielle LeDoux,

I am writing to express my support for the open primary bill HB 200 by Representative LeDoux. Since its founding, Alaska had an open primary. But it was taken away from us by a court ruling. That means that Alaskans can no longer vote for whoever they want in the primary. We have to pick a party ballot. Worse yet, these elections are paid for by the taxpayers. Segregating voters in public elections is wrong. Alaska is facing huge problems. We need big solutions. "Partisan politics as usual" is not going to get the job done. Bringing back an open primary would change all of that. It would give the people of Alaska the voice they need to make real change. I urge you to support HB 200 for the open primary. It's time to return voter freedom. Let all voters vote for whoever they want, in every round of the election. Thank you,

Sincerely,
Kalyn Kratz

4631 Sabrina rd
Homer, AK 99603
Constituent

Re: I urge you to support HB 200

Dear Gabrielle LeDoux,

I am writing to express my support for the open primary bill HB 200 by Representative LeDoux. Since its founding, Alaska had an open primary. But it was taken away from us by a court ruling. That means that Alaskans can no longer vote for whoever they want in the primary. We have to pick a party ballot. Worse yet, these elections are paid for by the taxpayers. Segregating voters in public elections is wrong. Alaska is facing huge problems. We need big solutions. "Partisan politics as usual" is not going to get the job done. Bringing back an open primary would change all of that. It would give the people of Alaska the voice they need to make real change. I urge you to support HB 200 for the open primary. It's time to return voter freedom. Let all voters vote for whoever they want, in every round of the election. Thank you,

Sincerely,
linda rabideau

3226 lake park circle
anchorage, AK 99517
Constituent

Re: I urge you to support HB 200

Dear Gabrielle LeDoux,

I am writing to express my support for the open primary bill HB 200 by Representative LeDoux. Since its founding, Alaska had an open primary. But it was taken away from us by a court ruling. That means that Alaskans can no longer vote for whoever they want in the primary. We have to pick a party ballot. Worse yet, these elections are paid for by the taxpayers. Segregating voters in public elections is wrong. Alaska is facing huge problems. We need big solutions. "Partisan politics as usual" is not going to get the job done. Bringing back an open primary would change all of that. It would give the people of Alaska the voice they need to make real change. I urge you to support HB 200 for the open primary. It's time to return voter freedom. Let all voters vote for whoever they want, in every round of the election. Thank you,

Sincerely,
Mary Jo Towne

752 Northshore Drive
Wasilla, AK 99654
Constituent

Re: I urge you to support HB 200

Dear Gabrielle LeDoux,

I am writing to express my support for the open primary bill HB 200 by Representative LeDoux. Since its founding, Alaska had an open primary. But it was taken away from us by a court ruling. That means that Alaskans can no longer vote for whoever they want in the primary. We have to pick a party ballot. Worse yet, these elections are paid for by the taxpayers. Segregating voters in public elections is wrong. Alaska is facing huge problems. We need big solutions. "Partisan politics as usual" is not going to get the job done. Bringing back an open primary would change all of that. It would give the people of Alaska the voice they need to make real change. I urge you to support HB 200 for the open primary. It's time to return voter freedom. Let all voters vote for whoever they want, in every round of the election. Thank you,

Sincerely,
Diane Matchett

P.O. Box 2527
Homer, AK 99603

Dear Gabrielle LeDoux,

I am writing to express my support for the open primary bill HB 200 by Representative LeDoux. Since its founding, Alaska had an open primary. But it was taken away from us by a court ruling. That means that Alaskans can no longer vote for whoever they want in the primary. We have to pick a party ballot. Worse yet, these elections are paid for by the taxpayers. Segregating voters in public elections is wrong. Alaska is facing huge problems. We need big solutions. "Partisan politics as usual" is not going to get the job done. Bringing back an open primary would change all of that. It would give the people of Alaska the voice they need to make real change. I urge you to support HB 200 for the open primary. It's time to return voter freedom. Let all voters vote for whoever they want, in every round of the election. Thank you,

Sincerely,
Belinda Williams

1031 Gilmore Trl
Fairbanks, AK 99712
Constituent

Dear Gabrielle LeDoux,

I am writing to express my support for the open primary bill HB 200 by Representative LeDoux. Since its founding, Alaska had an open primary. But it was taken away from us by a court ruling. That means that Alaskans can no longer vote for whoever they want in the primary. We have to pick a party ballot. Worse yet, these elections are paid for by the taxpayers. Segregating voters in public elections is wrong. Alaska is facing huge problems. We need big solutions. "Partisan politics as usual" is not going to get the job done. Bringing back an open primary would change all of that. It would give the people of Alaska the voice they need to make real change. I urge you to support HB 200 for the open primary. It's time to return voter freedom. Let all voters vote for whoever they want, in every round of the election. Thank you,

Sincerely,
Ronald Holmstrom

415 D Street #4
Anchorage, AK 99501
Constituent

Re: I urge you to support HB 200

Dear Gabrielle LeDoux,

I am writing to express my support for the open primary bill HB 200 by Representative LeDoux. Since its founding, Alaska had an open primary. But it was taken away from us by a court ruling. That means that Alaskans can no longer vote for whoever they want in the primary. We have to pick a party ballot. Worse yet, these elections are paid for by the taxpayers. Segregating voters in public elections is wrong. Alaska is facing huge problems. We need big solutions. "Partisan politics as usual" is not going to get the job done. Bringing back an open primary would change all of that. It would give the people of Alaska the voice they need to make real change. I urge you to support HB 200 for the open primary. It's time to return voter freedom. Let all voters vote for whoever they want, in every round of the election. Thank you,

Sincerely,
Stacey Fritz

Po box 84997
Fairbanks, AK 99708
Constituent

Re: I urge you to support HB 200

Dear Gabrielle LeDoux,

I am writing to express my support for the open primary bill HB 200 by Representative LeDoux. Since its founding, Alaska had an open primary. But it was taken away from us by a court ruling. That means that Alaskans can no longer vote for whoever they want in the primary. We have to pick a party ballot. Worse yet, these elections are paid for by the taxpayers. Segregating voters in public elections is wrong. Alaska is facing huge problems. We need big solutions. "Partisan politics as usual" is not going to get the job done. Bringing back an open primary would change all of that. It would give the people of Alaska the voice they need to make real change. I urge you to support HB 200 for the open primary. It's time to return voter freedom. Let all voters vote for whoever they want, in every round of the election. Thank you,

Sincerely,
James Ingersoll

5440 West Placide Circle
Wasilla, AK 99623
Constituent

Re: I urge you to support HB 200

Dear Gabrielle LeDoux,

I am writing to express my support for the open primary bill HB 200 by Representative LeDoux. Since its founding, Alaska had an open primary. But it was taken away from us by a court ruling. That means that Alaskans can no longer vote for whoever they want in the primary. We have to pick a party ballot. Worse yet, these elections are paid for by the taxpayers. Segregating voters in public elections is wrong. Alaska is facing huge problems. We need big solutions. "Partisan politics as usual" is not going to get the job done. Bringing back an open primary would change all of that. It would give the people of Alaska the voice they need to make real change. I urge you to support HB 200 for the open primary. It's time to return voter freedom. Let all voters vote for whoever they want, in every round of the election. Thank you,

Sincerely,
Laurie Cartwright

po box 283
Talkeetna, AK 99676
Constituent

Thank you for HB 200!

Julie McBrien
8164 Pinewood Dr
Juneau, AK 99801

Hello,

I am an Anchorage resident, and I am writing to express my strong support for HB200, as a way to neutralize the environment of strong partisanship, and to level the playing field.

Thank you,

--

Penny Gage

gagepenny@gmail.com - (907)738-4600



April 7, 2017

The Honorable Gabrielle LeDoux
State Capitol Room 216
Juneau AK, 99801

SUBJECT: HB 200 (LeDoux): Top-Two Nonpartisan Primary Election - SUPPORT

Dear Representative Gabrielle LeDoux,

On behalf of the Independent Voter Project (IVP), I am writing in support of House Bill 200.

HB 200 would ensure that taxpayer-funded and publicly-administered elections serve all Alaskan voters. Unlike a traditional partisan primary election system where the purpose is to elect a private nominee, the purpose of a nonpartisan primary is to narrow the field of candidates, regardless of party.

Because traditional partisan primaries, whether open or closed, serve a private purpose, they create an inherent conflict between the private rights of the political parties and the public purpose of our election process. This is why open and closed primaries continue to be the subject of legislative and legal challenges across the country.

Every voter has a fundamental right to participate at all critical stages of the election process without being forced to join a political party. It is this same fundamental right of non-association that the Court recognized in *Democratic Party v Jones*.

A top-two nonpartisan primary is a legally tested and proven way to protect the rights of both parties and individual voters. It has the added benefit of incentivizing legislators and candidates to represent everybody, not just members of their political party.

IVP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan 501(c)(4) organization dedicated to better informing voters about important public policy issues and encouraging nonpartisan voters to participate in the electoral process. IVP authored California's nonpartisan "top-two" primary (Proposition 14) in 2010 and the City of San Diego's successful 2016 top-two initiative, Measure K.

The Independent Voter Project strongly supports HB 200.

Sincerely,

S. Chad Peace
Attorney for Independent Voter Project

Independent Voter Project
PO Box 34431
San Diego, CA 92163