

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Wednesday, MARCH 28, 2018

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Deadline to Change Party Affiliation is March 31st

Oklahomans who want to change their party affiliation before the Primary or Runoff Primary Elections later this year must do so no later than **Saturday, March 31**, according to Brenda Rice, Secretary of the Blaine County Election Board.

Changes of political affiliation are prohibited by law during the period beginning **April 1 and continuing through August 31 in even-numbered years**, Rice said.

Each political party can nominate one candidate per office for the November General Election. If two or more candidates from the same party file for one office, the party nominee is selected at either the Primary or Runoff Primary Election.

Only voters registered in a political party can vote to select that party's nominees unless the party gives Independent voters permission to vote in its primaries. The Democratic and Libertarian Parties have given Independent voters permission to vote in their primaries and runoff primaries in 2018 and 2019. Oklahoma has three recognized political parties in 2018: **Democrat, Republican and Libertarian.**

All registered voters, regardless of political affiliation, can vote for any candidate at the November General Election and for state or local questions at any election.

Applications to register to vote or to change political affiliation are available at the Blaine County Election Board office, 212 N. Weigle; post offices; public libraries; state offices providing public assistance; and at most political party and candidate campaign offices.