Weighing Changes to Redistricting, Primaries, and Vote Counting

AN OPEN FORUM
Elections Summit Agenda

### Wednesday, August 10th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:45-9:00 a.m., Room W186a</td>
<td>Weighing Changes to Redistricting, Primaries and Vote Counting—An Open Forum (Breakfast Served)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:15-10:45 a.m., Room W183b</td>
<td>Electoral College Politics: National Popular Vote (and More)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:45-4:15 p.m., Room W195</td>
<td>Redistricting Work Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:15-5:30 p.m., Room W185d</td>
<td>Ancillary: Republican Party Redistricting Briefing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:15-5:30 p.m., Room W186a</td>
<td>Ancillary: Democratic Party Redistricting Working Group</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Thursday, August 11th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:45-12 p.m., Room W179a</td>
<td>Issue Session: Politics 2016—State Election Preview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15-1:45 p.m., Room W375abc</td>
<td>General Session Luncheon: Election 2016—Insight and Analysis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Did You Know?

- 13 states use a commission for legislative redistricting
- 6 states use a commission for congressional redistricting
- All remaining states use the legislature itself

For more information, Google “NCSL Redistricting Commissions”
Iowa, one of the 13 states where the legislature is in charge of redistricting, gives the legislative staff the job of drawing up maps.
A “top two” primary has all candidates, regardless of party, run on the same ballot in the primary—and the top two vote-getters, regardless of party, advance to the general election.
Did You Know?

Three states use top two primaries for all their elections: California, Washington, and Louisiana
Did You Know?

- Nebraska is the only state where legislators are elected on a nonpartisan basis—essentially a “top two”
There are six categories of primary elections used across the U.S.

1. Closed (9 states)
2. Partially closed (7 states)
3. Partially open (6 states)
4. Open to unaffiliated voters (9 states)
5. Open (15 states)
6. Top-two (4 states)

For more information, Google “NCSL State Primary Election Types”
Did You Know?

With Ranked Choice Voting (aka Instant Runoff Voting), voters can rank as many candidates as they want in order of choice.
Did You Know?

- 11 cities including San Francisco and Minneapolis use ranked choice voting for local elections
Did You Know?

- Ranked choice voting may be hard for some existing voting technology systems to accommodate.
- And it may be particularly helpful for overseas voters who might not be able to get two ballots back in time for a primary runoff.
England uses “first past the post” (aka “winner take all”) for elections whereby the candidate with the most votes wins.

Check out the YouTube video called “the Alternative Vote Explained” using the animal kingdom as the example.
“National Popular Vote” refers to an interstate compact that would guarantee the Presidency to the candidate who receives the most national popular votes in all 50 states and D.C.
For NPV to take effect, states contributing at least 270 electoral votes need to sign on

- Currently, 10 states & DC have signed on: CA, NY, RI, VT, WA, NJ, MA, IL, HI, MD & DC
- 165 electoral votes (61% of those needed) have signed on
In 2016, 22 bills in 14 states were introduced to consider national popular vote.

And x bills to move states out of the NPV contact were introduced.
Did You Know?

- NCSL will provide more content-rich programming on redistricting and elections at the Legislative Forum in Washington, D.C., December 6 - 9
Analysis on the election from the state perspective

Nov. 14, 2016, 1-5 p.m.
National Press Club
Washington, D.C.

www.ncsl.org/statevote