

From: [Pat Henry](#)
To: [OLSaideABD](#)
Subject: Block Ballot Design
Date: Wednesday, November 6, 2024 9:36:25 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

I just heard that public inputs for the hearing on block ballot design are being accepted for the upcoming hearing.

I have myself been impacted by the Line Style Ballot and would greatly appreciate the opportunity to have my comments read into the record.

If there's any additional information you need, I can be reached at home in Hackensack. My phone is 201/207-4929

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Pat Henry

Ballot design reform

My name is Pat (Patricia) Henry. I'm a retired 72 year old, born and raised in New Jersey. I'm the proud daughter of a grammar school teacher and a union ironworker, both staunch Democrats, who ingrained the spirit of democracy in me.

And because of that upbringing, voting is a very high priority for me. It is my voice; my precious right. I was not politically active at all, I just voted in line with my party... never questioning them.

That is until 2016 when I got a very cruel lesson in politics. After Hillary Clinton lost the election, I started getting educated and eventually ran for office in 2020.

Of course, I ended up in "Ballot Siberia" along with my running mates. That's when I firmly realized that my own party, my beloved Democrats, were actually manipulating me to vote their slate.

And their slate was very apparent since their "preferred" candidates all showed up in the first column of the ballot, directly below the presidential candidate.

In all those years prior, having faith and trust in my party, I just voted the line, not realizing that the preferential placement in that first column would give those candidates a huge leg up on the competition (I believe it's a 38% advantage.).

I've followed the lawsuits of people trying to contest "The Line" and even went so far as to

drive to Trenton to witness the hearing before Judge Quaraishi. Sitting in those hearings, listening to all those high powered lawyers was eye opening. So imagine how thrilled I was when he ordered a block ballot style for the November ballots. WOW! A win for the little guy!

And now, despite the fact that New Jersey is the ONLY state that used line style ballots and we FINALLY got a more fair, balanced ballot, like every other state in the Union, my own party is AGAIN trying to manipulate a simple block ballot. They will do ANYTHING to hold onto the line... their source of power.

I only wish I could have attended this hearing but I'm hoping that my written statement will be taken seriously when any changes to the block ballot are considered.

I love New Jersey. Grew up in Hudson County and currently living in Bergen County where I raised my family. But I've never liked the reference to my State as the most corrupt State in the country. And I sincerely hope that the corrupt influences in my party are NOT allowed to modify a block ballot that already works. This newly formed "committee" needs to stop trying to gerrymander what we fought so hard for.

I spent over 30 years working in a management position in the defense industry where I had many, many mandatory training classes in ethics. I also served for 4 years on the Passaic County Bar Association's District Ethics Committee. I am very attuned to doing the right thing and this Committee DOES NOT pass my smell test!

Please... let's take this opportunity to right a long standing wrong. The block ballot is fine, just the way it is. Don't allow corrupt politicians to work their game on this ballot.

Sincerely, Pat Henry

Sent from my iPhone