

NEIGHBORHOOD ELECTIONS

Our Community. Our Values. Our Voice.



KNOW THE **TRUTH**
about Utah's Neighborhood
Caucus Elections

Neighborhood**Elections**.com

Utah's Neighborhood Caucus Election System ensures that **anyone** can run for office.

Our system levels the playing field for all candidates, not just the famous, wealthy or incumbents. With our current system the best qualified candidates, even with very little money, can win over someone with millions.

Please watch this video to learn more about Utah's Neighborhood Caucus Elections:

<http://tinyurl.com/NeighborhoodElections>

Our Neighborhood Elections are **under attack**.

A small, well-connected and elite group of people is attempting to use their money and power to neutralize Utah's election system. Count My Vote (CMV) is an initiative to change from our current Neighborhood Caucus Election system to a Direct Primary. This makes it easier for big money and lobbyists to dominate our elections.



**NEIGHBORHOOD
ELECTIONS**

Who's Behind Count My Vote?

- **LaVarr Webb** – political consultant, lobbyist, publisher of Utah Policy, and partner at the Exoro Group. Exoro profited \$86,250 for work on Orrin Hatch's latest reelection efforts and \$25,705 from Bob Bennett's 2010 campaign. As of Jan. 2014, Exoro had been **paid \$211,233.91 by Count My Vote.**
- **Michael O. Leavitt** - former governor of Utah and Secretary of Health and Human Services
- **Richard B. McKeown** - President and CEO of Leavitt Partners - He has served as Chief of Staff for Michael O. Leavitt at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the E.P.A.
- **Maura Carabello** - original owner and managing partner of The Exoro Group. She often works as the lead partner for strategy and management of large-scale political efforts.
- **Taylor D. Morgan** – former Staff Associate for the U.S. House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Senior Staff for the Governor's Commission on Strengthening Utah's Democracy, and Washington, DC Program Manager - Hinckley Institute of Politics
- **Lindsay A. Zizumbo** – State and National Program Manager at the Hinckley Institute of Politics - She has worked extensively for Congressman Jim Matheson (D-UT) and was also a Legislative Organizer for the Utah Democratic Party
- **Norma Matheson** – Former Utah First Lady – Her son Jim will likely seek higher office in 2016.
- **Gail Miller** – Local businesswoman and widow of the late Larry H. Miller. Gail was mentioned as a potential U.S. Senate candidate in a recent **Dan Jones Poll.**
- **Kirk L. Jowers** – director of the Hinckley Institute of Politics. Jowers is a political consultant for the Washington, DC firm Caplin & Drysdale which has **received \$26,846 from Count My Vote.**
- **Donald Dunn** - former Clinton White House Political Affairs Official who has been extensively involved in fundraising and political campaigns. He also served as chairman of the Utah Democratic Party and was a candidate for Congress. His firm, the Opinion Group Corp, **received \$30,000 from Count My Vote.**

Why should I be
concerned about
Count My Vote?

Let's Learn From History

Utah already tried a direct primary system from 1937 to 1947. It failed. It was rejected by the public because of **increased costs and record low voter turnout (10%)**. Let's not make this mistake again.

Source: <http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=VXczAAAAIBAJ&sjid=sXwDAAAAIBAJ&pg=6680>



**NEIGHBORHOOD
ELECTIONS**

What would CMV **cost**?

This proposed law will **cost taxpayers MILLIONS** – close to one million the first year and almost that every two years thereafter.

Source:

<http://elections.utah.gov/Media/Default/Initiatives/County%20My%20Vote%20Fiscal%20Note%20Letter.pdf>



NEIGHBORHOOD
ELECTIONS

Do we want the **BEST** candidates or the ones who spend the most money?

Direct primaries require big campaign budgets for billboards, mailers, and television/radio ads. Only wealthy, well-connected candidates would have a chance. Why would we want to multiply the problem of money's influence in politics?



**NEIGHBORHOOD
ELECTIONS**

Utah's rural counties will **lose** influence to the urban areas.

Without rural delegates holding them accountable, politicians will focus on densely populated areas. Rural areas of Utah will become **“flyover country.”** Their concerns will go unnoticed. Issues critical to our economy and future, such as agriculture, mining, gas, oil, coal, and mineral leases (which benefit education) will be overlooked.



NEIGHBORHOOD
ELECTIONS

Count My Vote **minimizes** choice for Utah Voters

Currently, concerned voters get to participate in primaries, conventions, AND Neighborhood Caucus Elections. Count My Vote allows only ONE way to participate for all federal, state, and county elections - one Direct Primary.



**NEIGHBORHOOD
ELECTIONS**

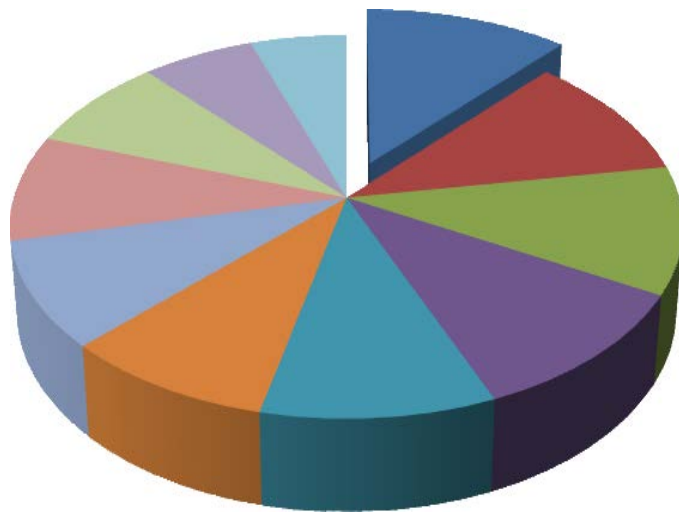
Poorly managed, debt-ridden states, like Illinois and California, use Direct Primaries.

Utah is the **best** managed state in the country for a good reason. Our Neighborhood Caucus Election system makes every candidate go through a rigorous “**job interview**” process before being hired.



NEIGHBORHOOD
ELECTIONS

Candidates could win without a majority.



Percentage of Votes
by Candidate

Count My Vote has no run-off system, so the winner would only need a small percentage of votes to win – **as little as 10%!**



NEIGHBORHOOD
ELECTIONS

Count My Vote is terribly flawed.

Taylor D. Morgan, Executive Director of CMV, admitted the legislature will have to immediately “improve upon” CMV if it passes.

(Nov. 9, 2013 at a Utah Young Republican CMV debate at UTGOP Headquarters)

Listen to Taylor Morgan’s comments here: (20 Seconds)



Analysis of CMV’s flaws: www.tinyurl.com/CmvIsFlawed



**NEIGHBORHOOD
ELECTIONS**

Follow the Money

What are the motives of those pushing CMV? Are they really trying to include more people, or are they trying to change to a system they can more easily manipulate?



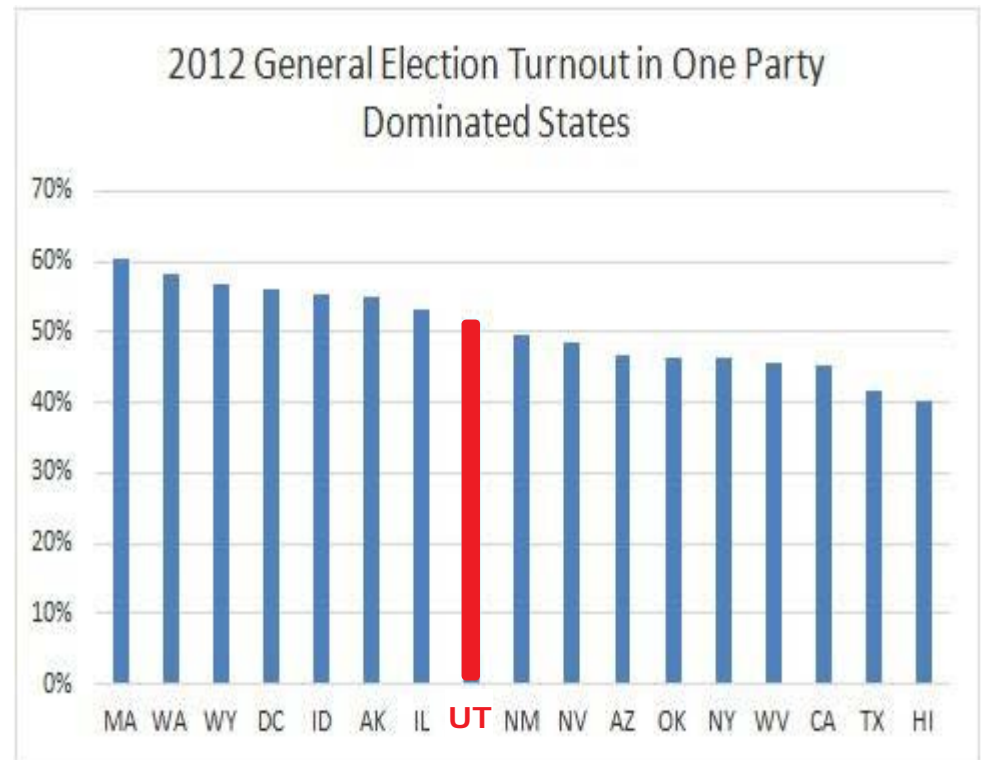
**NEIGHBORHOOD
ELECTIONS**

Debunking the Myths

MYTH: *“Utah’s low voter turnout is caused by our Neighborhood Election System.”*

FACT: Utah has about the same voter turnout as other states that have a dominant political party – whether or not they have a caucus system.

Source:
http://elections.gmu.edu/voter_turnout.htm



MYTH: *"Our current system under-represents women."*

(CMV's claim based on their statistics).

FACT: No one knows what percentage of women who ran for delegate were elected.

CMV offers no proof the current system is inherently more difficult for women than for men. CMV is throwing out statistics without context, and that is dishonest.



**NEIGHBORHOOD
ELECTIONS**

MYTH: *“Primaries are rare in Utah”*

FACT: Since 2000, primaries for statewide offices (CMV’s focus) were held most of the time. In 2012, four of the five statewide races had a primary.

Source: UTGOP



**NEIGHBORHOOD
ELECTIONS**

MYTH: *"Our current system is antiquated."*

FACT: CMV wants you to believe that electing someone to represent you is antiquated and old fashioned. If that is true, we need to get rid of all of our elected officials and let every citizen in Utah vote on every bill that is brought through the legislature, on every judge that needs to be confirmed, on every ordinance in their city and on every school board issue. **It isn't antiquated, it's the American way.**



**NEIGHBORHOOD
ELECTIONS**

MYTH: *“Delegates are out of touch and give us extreme candidates.”*

FACT: Delegates voted for Mike Leavitt (3 times), Jon Huntsman (2 times), Orrin Hatch (7 times), and Governor Herbert (2 times). Would these candidates be considered extreme?

Source: <http://elections.utah.gov/>



**NEIGHBORHOOD
ELECTIONS**

MYTH: *“Delegates can be bought.”*

(CMV uses Senator Hatch as an example – saying he spent five million dollars in 2012 to influence delegates.)

FACT: Even after spending five million dollars, Senator Hatch failed to convince 60% of delegates to vote for him in order to avoid a primary. This shows that even after throwing big money at our current system, there is no guarantee that wealthy politicians can buy and manipulate it.

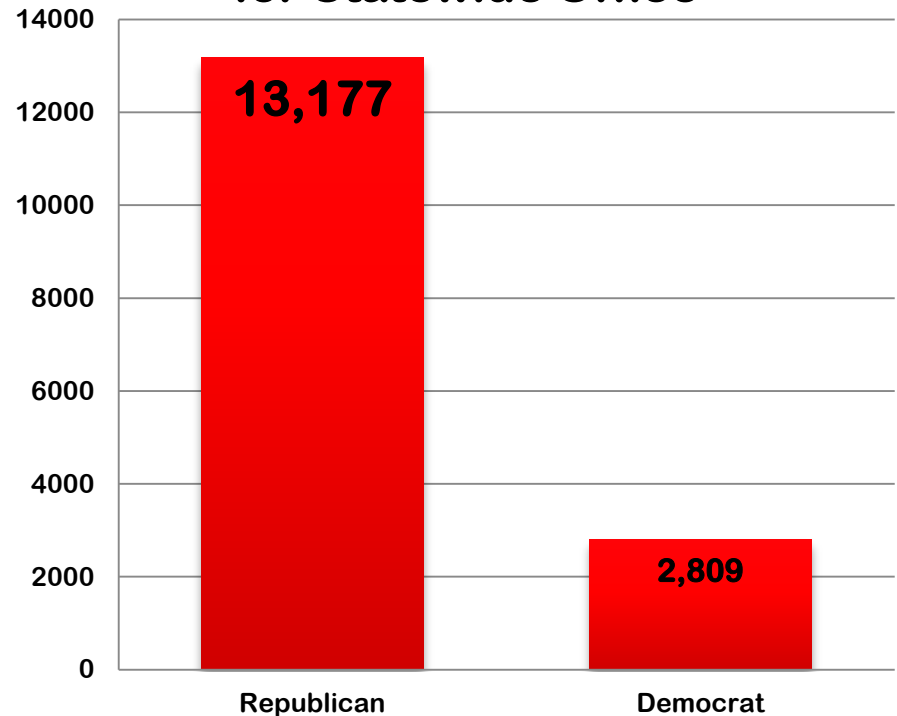


**NEIGHBORHOOD
ELECTIONS**

MYTH: *"Count My Vote will allow more participation in the election."*

FACT: CMV would require candidates to get as many as 13,000 signatures to get on the primary ballot. This may eliminate good candidates who may not have the funds needed to pay for people to go door to door to get the required signatures.

CMV Signature Requirement for Statewide Office



MYTH: *The current system excludes Utah's military, moms, people who have to work, and those engaged in religious service abroad.*

FACT: Can't attend your Neighborhood Election? CMV has ignored the fact that Utah's GOP now has Same Day Ballots. This allows members of the military, moms with sick kids, individuals having to work, and those doing religious service abroad to participate.



**NEIGHBORHOOD
ELECTIONS**

Bottom Line:

CMV would cost Utah taxpayers millions of dollars, prevent many good candidates from even getting on the ballot, and give big money and lobbyists a much more dominant role in Utah's elections.



**NEIGHBORHOOD
ELECTIONS**

What can you do to protect our Neighborhood Caucus Elections?

- Go to www.neighborhoodelections.org to sign up for updates and information.
- Donate at: www.tinyurl.com/OurElections or TEXT the word "caucus" to 33733
- Help spread the truth about CMV



NEIGHBORHOOD
ELECTIONS

If you or someone you know has signed the CMV petition, here's how you **remove** your signature:

1. **Fill out the Signature Removal Form:**
www.tinyurl.com/RemoveCmvSig
2. **Deliver it to your county clerk by May 15th:**
www.elections.utah.gov/election-resources/county-clerks



**NEIGHBORHOOD
ELECTIONS**

Utah First Supports Utah's Neighborhood Caucus Elections

Utah First :

- A diverse group of volunteers working to protect Utah's Neighborhood Caucus Elections
- A non-partisan, grassroots PIC (political issues committee)
- Has support from both the Republican and Democratic Party

Co-Chairs:

- Casey Anderson – Former state senator, Iron County
- Kris Kimball – President of United Women's Forum, Davis County
- Paul Gooch – Business owner and GOP Leg Chair, Washington County
- James Gonzales – Democratic party activist and political consultant, Salt Lake County
- Joni Crane – Talk Radio Host, former GOP county chair, Uintah County

