

or in conventions. Candidates of parties not coming within either of the first two categories had to be nominated in conventions and could obtain ballot space only if the notarized list of participants at the conventions totaled at least one percent of the total votes cast for governor in the last preceding general election or, failing this, if in the 55 succeeding days a requisite number of qualified voters signed petitions to bring the total up to one percent of the gubernatorial vote. “[W]hat is demanded may not be so excessive or impractical as to be in reality a mere device to always, or almost always, exclude parties with significant support from the ballot,” but the Court thought that one percent, or 22,000 signatures in 1972, “falls within the outer boundaries of support the State may require.”¹⁹⁰⁹ Similarly, independent candidates can be required to obtain a certain number of signatures as a condition to obtain ballot space.¹⁹¹⁰ A state may validly require that each voter participate only once in each year’s nominating process and it may therefore disqualify any person who votes in a primary election from signing nominating or supporting petitions for independent parties or candidates.¹⁹¹¹ Equally valid is a state requirement that a candidate for elective office, as an independent or in a regular party, must not have been affiliated with a political party, or with one other than the one of which he seeks its nomination, within one year prior to the primary election at which nominations for the general election are made.¹⁹¹² So too, a state may limit access to the general election ballot to candidates who received at least 1% of the primary votes cast for the particular office.¹⁹¹³ But it is impermissible to print the names of the candidates of the two major parties only on the absentee ballots, leaving off independents and other parties.¹⁹¹⁴ Also invalidated was a

¹⁹⁰⁹ *American Party of Texas v. White*, 415 U.S. 767, 783 (1974). In *Storer v. Brown*, 415 U.S. 724, 738–40 (1974), the Court remanded so that the district court could determine whether the burden imposed on an independent party was too severe, it being required in 24 days in 1972 to gather 325,000 signatures from a pool of qualified voters who had not voted in that year’s partisan primary elections. See also *Illinois State Bd. of Elections v. Socialist Workers Party*, 440 U.S. 173 (1979) (voiding provision that required a larger number of signatures to get on ballot in subdivisions than statewide).

¹⁹¹⁰ *American Party of Texas v. White*, 415 U.S. 767, 788–91 (1974). The percentages varied with the office but no more than 500 signatures were needed in any event.

¹⁹¹¹ 415 U.S. at 785–87.

¹⁹¹² *Storer v. Brown*, 415 U.S. 724, 728–37 (1974). Dissenting, Justices Brennan, Douglas and Marshall thought the state interest could be adequately served by a shorter time period than a year before the primary election, which meant in effect 17 months before the general election. *Id.* at 755.

¹⁹¹³ *Munro v. Socialist Workers Party*, 479 U.S. 189 (1986).

¹⁹¹⁴ *American Party of Texas v. White*, 415 U.S. 767, 794–95 (1974). Upheld, however, was state financing of the primary election expenses that excluded convention expenses of the small parties. *Id.* at 791–94. But the major parties had to hold