

IN THE
United States District Court
for the **Southern District of Indiana**

INDIANA GREEN PARTY, <i>ET. AL.</i> ,)	Case No.: 1:22-cv-00518-JRS-KMB
<i>Plaintiffs,</i>)	
)	
v.)	Hon. James R. Sweeney II
)	Judge Presiding
)	
HOLLI SULLIVAN,)	Hon. Kellie M. Barr
<i>Defendant.</i>)	Magistrate Judge Presiding
)	

NOTICE OF INTEREST AND AGREEMENT WITH PLAINTIFFS,
WITH SUGGESTIONS

I, *affiant* Andrew U. D. Straw, make this **NOTICE/LETTER** to express agreement with the plaintiffs, for these reasons:

FACTS & LAW

1. The State of Indiana denied me ballot access in 2012 when I ran for a federal office.
2. Because it is physically impossible for me to gather these signatures, I ran in 2022 as an official write-in candidate for Disability Party.
3. Both my legs, my pelvis, and skull were broken by a reckless driver while I drove to the Indiana Supreme Court to work in 2001 and it causes me pain and mobility loss every single day, even after I got a total hip replacement in 2012.
4. Further, due to my mental disabilities from Camp LeJeune poisoning, Public L. 117-168, SEC. 804, and my federal disability rights work, my 5 law licenses were attacked by that same Indiana Supreme Court I used to serve:

Straw v. Indiana, 53C06-2110-PL-2081 (Monroe Cty. Cir. Ct. #6)

5. This stripping me of property left me in poverty and pain on SSDI and unable to pay someone to gather the signatures for me.
6. My party, Disability Party, is small, with only about 500 followers on Facebook for Indiana.
7. I believe forcing candidates who are both physically and mentally disabled from public service and in poverty as a result to gather 44,935 voter signatures represents discrimination. Certainly in my case it does.
8. The 6th Circuit in the *Graveline* case imposed a 5,000 signature requirement on Michigan for a statewide race. Michigan has more voters than Indiana.
9. Excluding someone like me, driven into poverty by discrimination and failures to protect my property rights, should be something the federal courts want to avoid.
10. Other states have a much more reasonable attitude. Tennessee and Hawaii offer candidates the choice of paying a small fee.
11. That fee is not even close by orders of magnitude to the potentially \$300,000 to \$500,000 cost of paying someone to do this petitioning for Secretary of State.
12. Keep in mind that when a candidate reaches that 2% level for Secretary of State, it does not in any way provide any benefit to that individual, but only that party and all the other people who rely on that 2% result to escape massive expense when seeking ballot access from the top to the bottom of the ballot, all 92 counties.

13. My getting 2% would affect people in counties in Indiana I have never even visited, giving them more rights while granting me nothing but the kudos.
14. In short, it's not about me or David Wetterer or the Libertarian candidate because none of us are likely to win the race, but we participate anyway for the benefit of others.
15. I speak solely about the office of Secretary of State because Indiana law gives that one office and its turnout for candidates who run for it special significance.
16. I have no opinion at all about the races at the state and local level, only Secretary of State since it has that impact on ballot access for nearly every office.
17. To impose extreme costs on ballot access for hundreds if not thousands of state and local elections when none of the candidates had anything to do with the 2% issue (and a past Secretary of State race) draws the First Amendment clearly into the crosshairs.
18. This Court should focus on one office, not all the rest, because everything depends on the Secretary of State race in Indiana. No other office has that distinction.
19. Indiana should be forced to allow a candidate for that one office to gather 5,000 signatures for access like Michigan or pay \$1,000, which any new party can easily raise for one race.
20. If the ballot for that office in 2026 is filled with candidates that achieve less than 2%, this is not a burden on rest of the ballot to have multiple parties as

choices for that office. This one office is the dynamo of choice, the gateway for INDIANA VOTERS to be able to put other parties on the ballot.

21. Again, it is not about the candidate individuals for Secretary of State, but the party and all voters having the ability to put a new choice out there without unreasonable and unjustified barriers **blocking the voters**.

22. There being no benefit for 2% candidates, the only ones truly benefitting are the voters. Voters who get to put a new party on the ballot and voters later who get to vote for that party in other races. It's all about the voters, not about the candidates at all.

23. But the candidate who does not personally benefit from running is stuck with a wall of obstacles few can climb because Indiana has chosen against First Amendment association rights for voters. Not candidates, ***voters***.

24. If I said this must be done for every race, I believe that would be unreasonable and unnecessary, since parties would have a means to gain ballot access without unreasonable expense by treating this race as special, the gateway of democracy and voter choices.

25. One race and one office with a low barrier to entry allows voters the ability to allow new parties with minimal impact on the ballot that year.

26. This is a First Amendment right of association that Indiana has been oppressing with unbelievably burdensome and unnecessary signature requirements that cause poor people, disabled people, small parties, to be excluded from even having a chance.

27. Since this in my view should be limited to that one office, the Court should be willing to set a low signature burden or a low but reasonable entry fee for a new party.

WHEREFORE, I make this NOTICE/LETTER to support the plaintiffs and express my views as an official candidate for Indiana Secretary of State in 2022.

I, Andrew U. D. Straw, verify that the above factual contentions and statements are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, on penalty of perjury. Signed: **January 23, 2023**.

Respectfully,

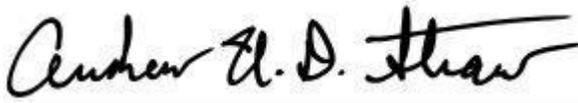


s/ ANDREW U. D. STRAW
712 H ST NE, PMB 92403
Washington, D.C. 20002
Telephone: (847) 807-5237
andrew@andrewstraw.com

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Andrew U. D. Straw, certify that on **January 23, 2023**, I filed the above **NOTICE** via CM/ECF into this case to the Clerk of Court and CM/ECF will serve all parties and will place this document into the docket of the case.

Respectfully submitted,



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