

Dear Mr. King & Ms. Nussmeyer,

My name is Randy Paul and I am running for county commissioner as a Green Party candidate in the Fall General Election. We are in the process of obtaining the required 1000+ signatures required to get on the November ballot.

It has become increasingly clear that due to the COVID-19 crisis our chance of success in obtaining these signatures by the current deadline has greatly diminished. When you consider the number of meeting and event closures, including Indiana University, our ability to reach large numbers of people is no longer possible. The absence of our IU student population alone greatly reduces our access to a demographic that has been largely responsive to a 3rd party candidacy.

Furthermore, even one on one solicitation of signatures is problematic. It does not seem safe or responsible to approach a potential voter for a signature when just the simple passing of a pen could put either person at risk to the virus.

I am asking each of you, in your role as directors of the Indiana Election Commission, some form of relief to 3rd party candidates to better enable them to get ballot access for the 2020 General Election. That relief could come in a variety of forms:

1. Allow online signatures. Currently online signatures are not allowed, forcing us to meet voters one on one. This would be the best way to solve this problem.
2. Extend the deadline for at least 8 weeks, to give us more time to get the required signatures.
3. Reduce the needed number of signatures by 1/2.

I hope you will consider this request promptly, all 3rd party candidates are on the clock, and if some action is not taken, we could very easily be blocked from participating in the 2020 election.

Thank you!

Randy G. Paul