

Resolution: Close Republican Primaries

Resolution sponsored by Amy Rosenthal for consideration at the 2026 OCGOP County Convention.

WHEREAS, current North Carolina law mandating open primary elections, SB747, allows unaffiliated voters to have an influence in choosing the Republican candidates who will appear on the ballot in all general elections; and

WHEREAS, although the North Carolina Republican Party was previously permitted to restrict its primary elections to registered Republicans, that right ended in 2025 with passage of bill SB747 which mandated open primary elections; and

WHEREAS, the Party desires to enlarge and extend the influence of the NCGOP by bringing all conservative voters into registered affiliation with the Republican Party; and

WHEREAS open primaries make it possible for unaffiliated voters to skew the primary vote, potentially preventing the best, and most conservative candidates from advancing to the general election; and

WHEREAS, open primaries are vulnerable to manipulation and corrupt behavior, as evidenced in Mississippi's June 2014 Republican run-off election, which significantly eroded public confidence in the electoral process; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Orange County GOP demands that Representatives to the North Carolina General Assembly rescind the portion of SB747 that mandated open primary elections, and return to the North Carolina Republican Party the choice to restrict voting in primary elections to members of the North Carolina Republican party who have been registered Republicans for at least 3 months prior to each election.

Adopted this 21st day of March, 2026, by the Orange County, NC Republican Party.

Larry C. Smith
Chairman, Orange County Republican Party

Rebecca Mela
Secretary, Orange County Republican Party