

Bob Marte
Queens

My name is Bob Marte. I live in Astoria, Queens. I am retired and live on Social Security. Before retirement, I was a software developer. I wrote and fixed software for over 40 years.

I support opening the primaries to independent voters because I don't think it's right to ban some people from voting and give preferential treatment to a particular group of voters. Independents should have the same choice as others.

I think independents as a group are more open-minded. They are people like you and me - not just the super-rich, well-connected, billionaire class. They can relate to ordinary people and they know what's going on. It would benefit the city to have us involved in choosing the candidates who represent us.

I find it interesting that politicians are allowed to run on 2 parties but don't want to hear from people outside their party. I hope you, the Commissioners, will put open primaries on the ballot and protect freedom of choice. It's an American value.