

John Alba
Bronx and Spanish Harlem

My name is John Alba. I was born and raised in Spanish Harlem and the Bronx. I am currently retired and disabled. Before I retired I worked in construction and as a chef. I would like to ask the Commission to put open primaries on the ballot in November.

I am a Democrat, but I support giving independents the right to vote in the primaries. I think we need to hear everybody's voice about what's good and what's not. The more people who are included in the process, the more we increase the chances of finding candidates who truly represent what we want.

Opening the primaries would be beneficial to candidates and to the voters. Candidates wouldn't be restricted to just the "party line". People could vote for whoever they like. Opening the primaries might allow candidates to emerge who are more interested in hearing from people and supporting what they need.

I sincerely hope you will give the voters a chance to weigh in on this issue - give the people the voice. This important issue should be decided by them.