

MONONGALIA COUNTY REPUBLICAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION URGING RESTORATION OF OPEN REPUBLICAN PRIMARIES

Adopted December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025

WHEREAS, the Monongalia County Republican Executive Committee adopted on December 8, 2020, its Pledge to the People of Monongalia County, which declares in relevant part:

- “We believe that local dilemmas deserve local solutions without sacrificing the autonomy of each subdivision or the rights of the individual”;
- “We support free and fair elections in accordance with the constitution of the United States of America and the laws and constitution of the State of West Virginia”; and
- “The MCREC exists to meet its statutory roles and to promote and encourage Republicans to run for office in Monongalia County”; and

WHEREAS, the same Pledge affirms our commitment to “Expanding Opportunity to Promote Prosperity,” “local control,” and policies that “encourage business growth” and “promote the creation of jobs for our citizens”; and

WHEREAS, Monongalia County contains one of the highest percentages of unaffiliated voters in West Virginia, many of whom are conservative-leaning citizens, business owners, entrepreneurs, military veterans, and young professionals who share our values but choose not to register with any political party; and

WHEREAS, the January 27, 2024 decision of the West Virginia Republican State Executive Committee to close Republican primaries to registered Republicans only directly conflicts with our Pledge by

- (a) denying thousands of Monongalia County conservatives a voice in choosing their representatives,
- (b) undermining local control over local elections,
- (c) erecting an unnecessary barrier that discourages participation in the democratic process, and
- (d) risking lower voter turnout that harms Republican candidates county-wide; and

WHEREAS, open primaries have been the longstanding tradition in West Virginia, have never been shown to cause systemic sabotage of Republican nominees, and have consistently produced strong, broadly acceptable Republican candidates in Monongalia County; and

WHEREAS, welcoming every conservative voter—regardless of party registration—into our primary process directly advances the MCREC’s stated goals of growing the Republican Party, expanding opportunity, and ensuring that “local dilemmas deserve local solutions”;

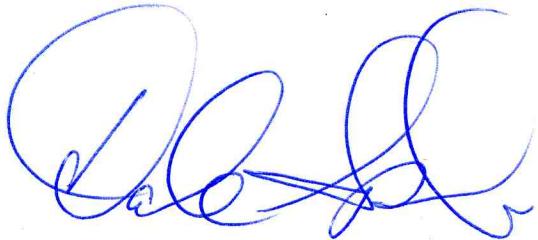
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Monongalia County Republican Executive Committee, faithful to its own 2020 Pledge to the People of Monongalia County, strongly urges the West Virginia

Republican State Executive Committee to immediately reverse its 2024 closed-primary rule and restore fully open Republican primaries for the 2026 election cycle and thereafter; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the MCREC pledges to work with sister counties and the State Executive Committee to grow the Republican Party by removing artificial barriers and welcoming all conservative voters of Monongalia County into the process of selecting our nominees, thereby honoring our commitment to local control, individual rights, and free and fair elections.

Adopted this 9th day of December, 2025

by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Monongalia County Republican Executive Committee.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John D. [illegible]".

Chair, Monongalia County Republican Executive Committee