

RESOLUTION OF THE SALUDA COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY

In Support of Closed Primaries and Against Crossover Voting Interference

WHEREAS, the **Republican Party of South Carolina** and its county affiliates exist to recruit, support, and elect Republican candidates who uphold the values of limited government, fiscal responsibility, free enterprise, and the constitutional liberties of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, South Carolina currently operates an **open primary system**, which allows any registered voter, regardless of party affiliation, to participate in either major party's primary election, leading to **potential manipulation of Republican candidate selection** by non-Republican voters; and

WHEREAS, recent reports and public statements made by Democratic activists and organizations have **openly encouraged Democrats to vote in upcoming Republican primaries** to influence the outcome of competitive races, thereby threatening the integrity of Republican candidate nominations and diluting the voice of legitimate Republican voters; and

WHEREAS, this form of **crossover voting and organized primary interference** undermines the freedom of association guaranteed under the **First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution** by allowing those outside our Party to determine its nominees; and

WHEREAS, the **South Carolina Republican Party**, at multiple state conventions and through resolutions passed by county executive committees, has repeatedly affirmed its commitment to **closing South Carolina's primaries** to ensure that only registered Republicans select Republican candidates for public office; and

WHEREAS, proposed legislation introduced in the 126th South Carolina General Assembly—**H.4520 (House)** and **S.113 (Senate)**—would finally establish **party registration and closed primaries**, thereby protecting the integrity of both major parties' nominating processes and restoring public confidence in elections;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the **Saluda County Republican Party**:

1. **Fully supports** passage of **H.4520** and **S.113**, or any similar legislation, to establish **closed primaries and party registration** in South Carolina;
2. **Condemns and opposes** all organized efforts by out-of-party activists or political organizations to **disrupt, infiltrate, or manipulate Republican primaries** through crossover voting schemes;

3. **Calls upon** all Republican members of the **South Carolina General Assembly** and the **Governor** to take immediate legislative action to protect the right of Republican voters to choose their own nominees without outside interference;
4. **Urges** the **South Carolina Election Commission** to enact appropriate safeguards to monitor, identify, and discourage coordinated crossover activity until closed primaries are codified; and
5. **Directs** that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the **South Carolina Republican Party Executive Committee, Governor Henry McMaster, Senate Majority Leader Shane Massey, House Speaker Murrell Smith**, and all members of the **Saluda County legislative delegation**.

ADOPTED, this ___ day of _____, 2025, by the **Saluda County Republican Party** Executive Committee in regular session.

Submitted by:

Amy Potts, Chairwoman

Greg Sander, 1st Vice Chairman

Gail Meyer, State Executive Committeewoman

The Executive Committee of the Saluda County Republican Party