

The Dallas Morning News

Opinion//Letters to the Editor

Letters— Texas academic scores, socialism, elections, Big Bend

Readers lament Texas' low educational scores, discuss socialism, advocate for open primaries and want to protect for Big Bend.

An independent voter

I am an independent voter and am distressed by the Republican Party's move to close the primaries in the state. These elections are publicly funded; and, as a taxpayer, I shouldn't be shut out of an election I helped pay for.

I am an independent because I prefer to think for myself and don't want any party telling me which candidate(s) to support. In fact, I would prefer that we have fully open primaries, so that I could choose a candidate from either party, or a fellow independent, to run for office.

Having to appeal to a broader range of voters could lead to candidates' campaigning in a less hostile manner and could ultimately lead to a less divided state and government. The partisan animosity that is so present in most of our public communications is harmful to the health of our communities, and allowing everyone to have a voice, as is our Constitutional right, could facilitate a better functioning society.

Sandi Hebley, North Dallas