

NEW ZEALAND SUPPORTS P.R.

On September 19, the voters of New Zealand voted on whether to switch to proportional representation, for elections to the national House of Representatives. The vote was overwhelmingly favorable to the change; 85% voted in favor.

A second portion of the ballot asked voters what type of p.r. they want. 70% chose the system used in Germany, in which voters choose parties, rather than individual candidates, to fill half the seats. Parties then receive a number of representatives, proportional to the party's support, to fill half of the membership of the legislative body. The other half is filled in the traditional manner.

Canada is likely to switch to p.r. to fill most or all of its Senate soon; each province will decide the issue for itself.

CANDIDATE INFORMATION SERVICE

PROJECT VOTE SMART, gives information to anyone, about any candidate for federal office. 129 NW 4th St., #204, Corvallis Or 97330. (800) 786-6885.

BALLOT ACCESS GROUPS

1. **ACLU**, American Civil Liberties Union, has been for fair ballot access since 1940, when it recommended that requirements be no greater than of one-tenth of 1%. 132 W. 43rd St., New York NY 10036, tel. (212) 944-9800.

2. **CENTER FOR A NEW DEMOCRACY** works to permit different parties to nominate the same candidate. 1324 Drake St, Madison Wi 53715, tel. (608) 256-1968.

3. **COFOE**, Coalition for Free and Open Elections. Dues of \$11 entitles one to membership with no expiration date; this also includes a year subscription to *B.A.N.* (or a one-year renewal). Box 355, Old Chelsea Sta., New York NY 10011. Membership applications can also be sent to Bx 470296, San Francisco Ca 94147.

☐ **RENEWALS**: If this block is marked, your subscription is about to expire. Please renew. Post office rules do not permit inserts in second class publications, so no envelope is enclosed. Use the coupon below.

4. **COALITION TO END THE PERMANENT CONGRESS**, favors more competitive elections; has a platform which includes easier ballot access. Bx 7309, N. Kansas City, Mo. 64116, tel. (800) 737-0014.

5. **COMMITTEE FOR PARTY RENEWAL**, scholars and party activists who believe that strong parties are needed for popular control of government. \$10 per year. Write Dr. Gerry Pomper, Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers, Woodlawn, Nielson Campus, New Brunswick NJ 08901, tel. (908) 932-9384.

6. **FOUNDATION FOR FREE CAMPAIGNS & ELECTIONS**, Funds lawsuits which attack bad ballot access laws. Donations to it are tax-deductible. 7404 Estaban Dr., Springfield VA 22151, tel. (703) 569-6782.

7. **RAINBOW LOBBY**, organized in 1985, initiated the Penny and Wellstone "Democracy in Debates" bills in Congress and maintains a lobbying office at 1660 L St., N.W., # 204, Washington, DC 20036, (202) 457-0700.

VOTER REGISTRATION GROUPS

1. **HUMAN SERVE** lobbies for laws that provide for registering people to vote whenever they apply for government services. 622 W. 113th St., #410, New York NY 10025, tel. (212) 854-4053.

2. **PROJECT VOTE!** shares the same goal, but brings lawsuits to accomplish this end. 1424 16th St., NW, Washington DC 20036, tel. (202) 328-1500.

PROPORTIONAL REP. GROUP

CITIZENS FOR PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION, promotes the idea of proportional representation for the U.S., for all levels of government. Box 11166, Alexandria Va 22312, (703) 914-0205. Dues are \$30. CPR recently held a national organizational meeting and now has fulltime staff.

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