

Calif. indys can only vote in Dem primary

by UPI

SACRAMENTO - California voters were reminded Friday that independents could vote in the upcoming Democratic presidential primary but not the Republican contest. California is holding a semi-open primary on Super Tuesday, meaning that the Democrats have agreed to allow independents to vote for a candidate but the Republicans have not. "If I didn't like any of the candidates on the Democratic ticket, I wouldn't hesitate to choose a Republican candidate. However, I'm not allowed that option," Monterey County, Calif., voter Kari Bluff told Stateline.org. But GOP officials said their decision to close their primary was the fairest option for California's registered Republicans. Political analysts are uncertain how the setup in delegate-rich California will impact the races. They noted, however, that it appears independents nationwide could have a major say in the races between established candidates Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Sen. Hillary Clinton, D-N.Y., and the hard-charging upstarts former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee and Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill. Stateline.org said 19 percent of California voters are considered independent.

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